

Bury W. Mum

TOWN OF READING

MASSACHUSETTS

THE ANNUAL REPORT

For the Financial Year
Ending December 31st

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TOWN OF READING

ANNUAL REPORT


—FOR THE—

FINANCIAL YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31

1923



THE CHRONICLE PRESS
READING, MASS.



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TOWN OFFICERS, 1923-1924

Elected and Appointed

Selectmen

FREDERICK L. SPRINGFORD, Chairman	Term expires 1926
H. RAYMOND JOHNSON, Secretary	“ “ 1924
JOSEPH D. KNIGHT	“ “ 1925
LEON G. BENT, Clerk	

Overseers of the Poor

FREDERICK L. SPRINGFORD, Chairman	Term expires 1926
H. RAYMOND JOHNSON, Secretary	“ “ 1924
JOSEPH D. KNIGHT	“ “ 1925
LEON G. BENT, Clerk	HELEN A. BROWN, Visitor

Assessors

ALVAH W. CLARK, Chairman	Term expires 1924
J. FRED RICHARDSON, Secretary	“ “ 1925
EDWARD B. EAMES	“ “ 1926

Town Clerk

MILLARD F. CHARLES

Treasurer

HENRY H. KINSLEY

Collector of Taxes

GRACE V. VIALL

Town Counsel

JESSE W. MORTON

Moderator

JESSE W. MORTON

Town Accountant

LEON G. BENT

Board of Public Works

GEORGE H. CLOUGH, Chairman	Term expires	1925
CLARENCE C. WHITE, Secretary	" "	1924
JOSEPH W. BOOTH	" "	1926
CHARLES VAN STONE	" "	1924
JOHN W. OWEN	" "	1925
HARRY B. COLLINS, Supt.		
EDWARD H. CROWE, Supt. Highway Dept.		

Board of Health

EDWARD M. HALLIGAN, M. D., Chairman	Term expires	1925
CHRISTINE F. ATKINSON, Secretary	" "	1924
CALVERT H. PLAYDON, M. D. V.	" "	1926

Finance Committee

ALBERT R. SHEPARDSON, Chairman	Term expires	Mar. 31,	1924
MARGARET R. ELLISON	" "	" "	1925
JAMES P. CARLETON	" "	" "	1926
WILLIAM A. HALEY	" "	" "	1926
FREDERICK D. SPERRY	" "	" "	1926
SPENCER G. STEWART	" "	" "	1926
JAMES W. FAIRCHILD	" "	" "	1924
JOHN H. FARNUM	" "	" "	1924
ELIAS B. CURRELL	" "	" "	1924
WINTHROP D. PARKER	" "	" "	1924
‡ ESTELLE H. LEWIS	" "	" "	1926
MOLLIE A. SWEETSER	" "	" "	1926
JOHN CONNELLY	" "	" "	1925
WILLIAM A. DENNISON	" "	" "	1925
JOHN L. DEVANEY	" "	" "	1925
MARTIN B. HARTSHORN	" "	" "	1925
LEON G. BENT (ex-officio) Secretary			

School Committee

WALTER S. PARKER, Chairman	Term expires	1926
LEONE F. QUIMBY	" "	1926
ELIZABETH H. BROWN	" "	1924
HENRY Q. MILLETT	" "	1924
IDA A. YOUNG	" "	1925
JESSE W. MORTON	" "	1925
ADELBERT L. SAFFORD, Supt. of Schools, Secretary		

School Attendance Officer

ABIGAIL H. MINGO

‡ Resigned

Municipal Light Board

WILLIAM G. LONG, Chairman	Term expires	1926
HERBERT G. EVANS, Secretary	" "	1924
HARRY P. BAKER	" "	1925
ARTHUR G. SIAS, Manager, Municipal Light Dept.		

Trustees of Laurel Hill Cemetery

GALEN A. PARKER, Chairman	Term expires	1926
PHILIP H. TIRRELL, Secretary	" "	1924
WILLIAM S. KINSLEY	" "	1926
*ALFRED W. DANFORTH	" "	1924
FRANK L. EDGERLEY	" "	1925
WILLIE E. TWOMBLY	" "	1925
ALFRED E. GOODWIN, Supt. of Cemetery		

Board of Registrars

OWEN McKENNEY, Chairman	Term expires	1924
*ARTHUR C. COPELAND	" "	1926
WALTER S. PRENTISS	" "	1925
PRESTON F. NICHOLS	" "	1926
MILLARD F. CHARLES, Clerk		

Playground Commission

ARTHUR S. COOK, Chairman

MABEL H. BROWN	LOUISE E. BURRAGE
HAROLD F. PARKER	HARRY E. SMITH

Planning Board

‡AMOS M. McLEAN, Chairman	Term expires	1925
HELEN R. GRIMES, Secretary	" "	1926
JOHN L. DODGE	" "	1925
MARY F. DANIEL	" "	1926
ROBERT S. PARKER	" "	1924
WILLARD P. ADDEN	" "	1925

Trustees of Public Library

HORACE G. WADLIN, Chairman	Term expires	1925
ARTHUR N. MANSFIELD, Secretary	" "	1924
CHARLES F. DOUGHTY	" "	1926
FANNIE C. WHITEMORE	" "	1923
EDITH BANCROFT	" "	1924
RALPH S. KENEELEY	" "	1925

BERTHA L. BROWN, Librarian

GRACE J. ABBOTT, Assistant Librarian

* Deceased

Police Department

JEREMIAH CULLINANE, Chief

TIMOTHY J. CULLINANE

PATRICK J. LONG

OSCAR H. LOW

WILLIAM F. O'BRIEN

FRANCIS T. SLACK

DANIEL T. SCANLON

FRANK R. FISHER

Fire Department

ORVILLE O. ORDWAY, Chief

HUGH L. EAMES, Capt.

JOHN J. O'BRIEN, Lieut.

FRANK L. McKENNEY

WILLIAM H. VANHORN

Superintendent of Fire Alarm

*LEONARD T. EAMES

HUGH L. EAMES

Forest Warden

ORVILLE O. ORDWAY

Deputy Forest Warden

HENRY M. DONEGAN

Constables

ALBERT C. GRAUPNER, Jr.

EDWARD G. QUINLAN

35 Pleasant Street

228 Main Street

Inspector of Milk

CARL M. SMITH

Inspector of Plumbing

DAVID TAGGART

Inspector of Animals

CALVERT H. PLAYDON, M. D. V.

Inspector of Wires

ARTHUR G. SIAS

Inspector of Buildings

GEORGE H. SIDEBOTTOM

Sealer of Weights and Measures

CARL M. SMITH

* Deceased

Superintendent of Moth Department and Tree Warden

HENRY M. DONEGAN

Burial Agent for Deceased Soldiers and Sailors

(Under Chapter 115, Section 19, General Laws)

CHARLES STOREY

Custodian of Soldiers' and Sailors' Graves

(Under Chapter 115, Section 22, General Laws)

ALFRED E. GOODWIN

Board of Appeal

MAHLON E. BRANDE

GILMAN L. PARKER

FRED L. NUTTER

Measurers of Wood and Bark

THOMAS E. BROGAN

PERCY N. SWEETSER

BURTON K. SYMONDS

WARREN M. WHITEHOUSE

Measurers of Lumber

ORA L. MILLBURY

BURTON K. SYMONDS

WARREN M. WHITEHOUSE

WILLIAM R. ZWICKER

EDWARD B. EAMES

ROLLAND L. PERRY

Weighers of Coal and Hay

W. IRVING BANCROFT

THOMAS E. BROGAN

BERTHA D. MacLELLAN

MABEL L. McKAY

WENDELL B. NEWELL

PERCY N. SWEETSER

WILLIAM H. WHITE

Field Drivers

WILLARD A. BANCROFT

ADOLPH S. LARSON

ROLLAND L. PERRY

Fence Viewers

J. W. AUSTIN

ALBERT E. TEMPLE

THOMAS E. WALL

Workingmen's Compensation Agent

(Chapter 152, Section 175, General Laws)

HENRY H. KINSLEY

Director of Agriculture and Home Economics . .

(Chapter 128, Section 41, General Laws)

ROLLAND L. PERRY

TOWN OF READING

Population 1920 Census, 7424.

Registered Voters 1923: Men 1813, Women 1527.

Fifth Congressional District.

Sixth Councillor District.

Seventh Middlesex Senatorial District.

Eighteenth Middlesex Representative District.

Congressman 5th District, John Jacob Rogers, Lowell.

Councillor 6th District, Charles S. Smith, Lincoln.

Senator 7th Middlesex District, Charles P. Howard, Reading.

Representatives 18th Middlesex District, Gustave W. Everberg, Woburn,

Lemuel W. Standish, Stoneham.

Jury List of the Town of Reading—1923

Prepared by the Board of Selectmen

Babcock, Ernest G., Clerk	27 Grand St.
Badger, William S., Clerk	4 Middlesex Ave.
Bagness, Alfred F., Salesman	316 Haverhill St.
Bairrett, William C., Mechanic	34 Warren Ave.
Brande, Mahlon E., Real Estate	103 Woburn St.
Bronson, Frederick E., Manager	26 Grand St.
Brooks, George C., Salesman	9 Harnden St.
Brown, George H., Salesman	144 High St.
Burns, Robert, Mason	393 Franklin St.
Bussell, John H., Retired	57 Prospect St.
Chesley, Robert O., Clerk	91 Oak St.
Clapp, Ernest A., Carpenter	8 Pratt St.
Colby, Earl N., Brakeman	32 Berkeley St.
Cook, Guy B., Clerk	7 Echo Ave.
Corrigan, John F., Rubber Worker	3 Washington St.
Crosby, Guy M., Operator	21 Woburn St.
Crosby, Joseph H., Clerk	77 Haven St.
Cummings, Paul J., Bookkeeper	41 Salem St.
Devaney, Martin J., Bookkeeper	59 Ash St.

Dodge, John L., Contractor	49 Prescott St.
Doran, Daniel F., Boiler Maker	95 Haven St.
Doucette, Clarence L., Accountant	15 Warren Ave.
Doughty, Charles F., Accountant	52 Linden St.
Ellenwood, Louis, Contractor	10 Gould St.
Fife, Truesdale C., Merchant	6 Union St.
Flint, Clarence E., Shipper	9 Eaton St.
Flint, George L., Carpenter	19 Village St.
French, Clarence J., Salesman	189 Summer Ave.
Gaw, Hamilton, Clerk	73 Salem St.
Gilman, Edgar M., Brakeman	56 Vine St.
Gould, Chester F., Organpipe Worker	Beacon St.
Hagar, Leland S., Clerk	22 Ash St.
Halloran, Martin J., Jr., Clerk	40 Minot St.
Hamilton, James S., Manager	23 Prescott St.
Heath, Wilbur S., at home	74 Main St.
Hill, Herbert L., Salesman	36 Orange St.
Hobbs, Samuel, Civil Engineer	7 Fairview Ave.
Hutchinson, George M., Farmer	246 Summer Ave.
Killam, James W., Civil Engineer	16 Arlington St.
Lang, George E., Real Estate	25 Prescott St.
Lehan, Bartholomew J., Real Estate	17 Temple St.
Linder, John H., Machinist	163 High St.
MacLellan Harry R., Salesman	67 Woburn St.
Malonson, Alfred F., Operator	37 High St.
McNeil, Hugh J., Chauffeur	6 Ash St.
Mellen, Charles E., Clerk	15 Pearl St.
Merritt, Fred E., Engineer	50 Deering St.
Michellini, Arthur C., Clerk	61 Washington St.
Millett, Henry Q., Auditor	59 Linden St.
Moody, Wellman J., Farmer	220 West St.
Murphy, Howard J., Manufacturer	253 Main St.
Newton, D. Augustine, Minister	56 Linden St.
Nodding, Leonard J., Salesman	42 Berkeley St.
Nowell, George F., Treasurer	12 Arlington St.
Nutting, Frank H., Salesman	31 Hillcrest Road
O'Brien, William E., Engineer	59 Salem St.
Oldfield, Samuel T., Auditor	40 Temple St.
Ordway, Earl B., Salesman	3 Grand St.
Palmer, Harold V., Merchant	65 Prospect St.
Poock, Henry R., Shipper	56 Federal St.
Remick, Nelson A., Merchant	1 Mt. Vernon St.
Robertson, Fred A., Mechanic	off 388 Main St.
Rodgers, Clarence C., Carpenter	10 Auburn St.
Sanborn, Harold O., Asst. Manager	27 Hancock St.
Sanders, Wilbur S., Clerk	90 Summer Ave.

Stevens, Edward H., Moulder	87 Ash St.
Stevens, Frank M., Salesman	14 Mt. Vernon St.
Storey, Charles, Shipper	23 Arlington St.
Symonds, Burton K., Manufacturer	96 Ash St.
Tanner, Frank D., Claim Agent	44 Woburn St.
Temple, Arthur W., Real Estate	35 Temple St.
Thorn, Fred J., Shipper	22 Avon St.
Thornton, Patrick, Mill Hand	6 Minot St.
Tirrell, Philip H., Salesman	225 Main St.
Torrey, Howard, at home	159 Summer Ave.
Wall, Edward T., Mill Hand	8 Center Ave.
Whitecomb, Emmons G., Tourist Agent	Copeland Ave.
Whitney, Glen E., Insurance	Ellis Ave.
Whitton, Edward F., Clerk	127 Haven St.

Approved:

FREDERICK L. SPRINGFORD

H. RAYMOND JOHNSON

JOSEPH D. KNIGHT

Selectmen of Reading

TOWN MEETINGS 1923

ANNUAL TOWN MEETING

Security Hall, Woburn St., March 5, 1923.

Pursuant to the warrant and the Constable's return thereon a town meeting was held at the place and time specified therein and was called to order by the Moderator, Jesse W. Morton. The warrant was partly read when it was voted to dispense with further reading except the Constable's return.

Art. 1. To bring in their votes on one ballot for Moderator; Town Clerk; one member Board of Selectmen for three years; one member Board of Overseers of the Poor for three years; Treasurer; Collector of Taxes; one member Board of Health for three years; two members of the School Committee for three years; one member of the Municipal Light Board for three years; one member of Board of Public Works for three years; two Trustees of the Public Library for three years; two Trustees of Laurel Hill Cemetery for three years; one member Board of Assessors for three years; Tree Warden; two Constables; two members of the Planning Board for three years; also on the same ballot, "Yes" or "No", in answer to the following questions:

Shall licenses be granted for the Sale of Certain Non-Intoxicating Beverages in this town? Also on same ballot, "Yes" or "No", Shall the Town petition for the installation of an accounting system by the Commonwealth? (This question is submitted under the provisions of Chapter 516, Acts of 1922.)

Moderator, One Year

Jesse W. Morton, 114 Woburn St.	309
Blanks	27

Town Clerk, One Year

Millard F. Charles, 66 Bancroft Ave.	321
Blanks	15

Selectman, Three Years

Frederick L. Springford, 55 Middlesex Ave.	306
Blanks	30

Overseer of the Poor, Three Years

Frederick L. Springford, 55 Middlesex Ave.	273
Annie L. Patrick, 312 Main St.	28
Blanks	35

Board of Public Works, Three Years

Joseph W. Booth, 52 Middlesex Ave.	292
Blanks	44

Assessor, Three Years

Edward B. Eames, 193 Main St.	295
Blanks	41

Treasurer, One Year

Henry H. Kinsley, 65 Linden St.	308
Blanks	28

Tax Collector, One Year

Grace V. Viall, 42 Bancroft Ave.	312
Blanks	24

Constables, One Year

Albert C. Graupner, Jr., 35 Pleasant St.	288
Edward G. Quinlan, 228 Main St.	285
Blanks	99

Board of Health, Three Years

Calvert H. Playdon, 112 Ash St.	295
Blanks	41

School Committee, Three Years

Walter S. Parker, 55 Walnut St.	306
Leone F. Quimby, 25 Howard St.	294
Blanks	72

Municipal Light Board, Three Years

William G. Long, 44 Prescott St.	296
Blanks	40

Tree Warden, One Year

Henry M. Donegan, 15 Federal St.	313
Blanks	23

Trustees of Laurel Hill Cemetery, Three Years

William S. Kinsley, 23 Woburn St.	303
Galen A. Parker, 1 Charles St.	301
Blanks	68

Trustees Public Library, Three Years

Charles F. Doughty, 52 Linden St.	288
Fannie C. Whittemore, 15 Harnden St.	300
Blanks	84

Planning Board, Three Years

Mary F. Daniel, 17 Harnden St.	55
Helen W. Grimes, 141 Woburn St.	43
George L. Flint, 19 Village St.	18
Winthrop D. Parker, 1 Charles St.	14
Elmer H. Richardson, 85 Green St.	13
Scattering	26
Blanks	503

Shall Licenses be granted for the sale of Certain Non-Intoxicating Beverages in this Town?

Yes	66
No	226
Blanks	44

Shall the Town petition for the installation of an accounting system by the Commonwealth?

Yes	102
No	122
Blanks	112

The result of the vote was declared in open town meeting and the ballots sealed and delivered to the Town Clerk and it was voted to adjourn as per warrant to March 12, 1923, at 7.45 o'clock P. M.

MILLARD F. CHARLES, Town Clerk.

ANNUAL TOWN MEETING

Security Hall, March 12, 1923.

Pursuant to the warrant and adjournment a town meeting was held in Security Hall, Woburn St., and was called to order by the Moderator, Jesse W. Morton.

Art. 2. To hear and act on the reports of the Selectmen, Overseers of the Poor, Assessors, Treasurer, Collector of Taxes, Town Accountant, Board of Public Works, School Committee, Municipal Light Board, Trustees of the Public Library, Trustees of the Cemetery, Board of Health, Tree Warden, Finance Committee, Planning Board and Special Committees.

Art. 2. On motion of William G. Long, Art. 2 was laid on the table.

Art. 3. To choose all other necessary town officers and determine what instructions be given the town officers.

Art. 3. On motion of Frederick L. Springford, it was voted that the following serve as Measurers of Lumber for the ensuing year: Ora L. Milbury, William R. Zwickler, Edward B. Eames, Warren M. Whitehouse, Burton K. Symonds, Rolland L. Perry; the following as Measurers of Wood and Bark: Percy N. Sweetser, Burton K. Symonds, Thomas E. Brogan, Warren M. Whitehouse.

On motion of Frederick L. Springford, it was voted that the Town Accountant be and hereby is authorized and instructed to transfer from Excess and Deficiency Account the sum of twelve thousand five hundred dollars (\$12,500.00) to be applied to the payment of maturing notes and bonds of the current year.

Art. 4. To determine how much money the Town will raise and appropriate for General Government, Protection of Persons and Property, Health and Sanitation, Highways, Bridges and Sidewalks, Street Lighting, Charities and Aid, Soldiers' Benefits, School Department, Public Library, Laurel Hill Cemetery, Recreation, Insurance and Interest.

Art. 4. On motion of Frederick L. Springford, it was voted that the following sums be raised and appropriated for General Government:

Moderator's Salary	\$ 60.00
Selectmen's Expenses	300.00
Selectmen's Clerks	1310.00
Town Accountant's Salary	1000.00
Treasurer's Salary	1000.00
Treasurer's Expenses	400.00
Tax Collector's Salary	2000.00
Tax Collector's Clerical Assistance	150.00
Tax Collector's Expenses	650.00
Assessors' Salaries	1800.00
Assessors' Clerical	1144.00
Assessors' Expenses	1000.00
Block System Survey	250.00
Town Clerk's Salary	200.00
Town Clerk's Expenses	500.00
Town Counsel's Salary	500.00
Registrars' Salaries	170.00
Election Expenses	500.00
Board of Public Works, Salary of Supt.	3000.00
Board of Public Works, Expenses	576.50
Board of Public Works, Clerical Expenses	936.00

On motion of Frederick L. Springford, it was voted that the following sums be raised and appropriated for General Accounts:

Miscellaneous Expenses	\$ 3000.00
Maintenance of Municipal Building	3000.00
Maintenance of Central Fire Station	850.00
Lighting G. A. R. Hall	25.00
Lighting Victory House	200.00
Insurance	9000.00
Interest	19,142.50

On motion of Frederick L. Springford, it was voted that the following sums be raised and appropriated for Protection of Persons and Property:

Police Dept., Salaries	\$13,500.00
Chief of Police	\$2000.00
Five Patrolmen	8500.00
Two Patrolmen	3000.00
Police Dept., Expenses	2048.00
Fire Dept., Salaries	8800.00
Chief	2000.00
Four Firemen @ \$1700	6800.00
Call Firemen, Salaries	2765.00
Fire Dept., Expenses	3500.00
Supt. Fire Alarm, Salary	100.00
Supt. Fire Alarm, Expenses	775.00
Moth Dept., Maintenance	6400.00
Forest Warden, Maintenance	200.00
Tree Warden, Maintenance	1500.00
Inspector of Wires, Salary	100.00
Inspector of Buildings, Salary	300.00
Sealer of Weights and Measures, Salary	400.00
Sealer of Weights and Measures, Expenses	100.00

On motion of George H. Clough, it was voted that the Town raise and appropriate:

Hydrant Rentals	\$6060.00
Drinking Fountains	100.00

and the above named sums, together with the Water Dept. receipts estimated at \$44,173.81 and the balance on hand, Jan. 1, 1923, \$6,633.81, be appropriated for interest on water bonds, maintenance of Water Works and main and service pipes and that \$12,000.00 of above mentioned amount be paid by the Water Department to the Town Treasurer to be used in full payment of water bonds.

On motion of Frederick L. Springford, it was voted that the following sums be raised and appropriated for Health and Sanitation:

Salaries, Board of Health	\$ 250.00
Expenses, Board of Health	300.00
Inspector of Plumbing	700.00
Inspector of Milk	100.00
Inspector of Animals	200.00
Care of Contagious Diseases	1200.00
Garbage Collection	1600.00

Charities and Aid

Poor Department, Clerical Assistance	\$ 352.00
Poor Department, Visitor's Salary	400.00
Poor Department, Aid	5000.00
Board and Care	2500.00

Mothers' Aid, Town	1500.00
Mothers' Aid, State	2500.00
Temporary Aid, State	1800.00

Soldiers' Benefits

Soldiers' Relief	\$4000.00
Military Aid	300.00
State Aid	700.00

On motion of George H. Clough, it was voted to raise and appropriate the sum of fifty thousand dollars for the construction, maintenance and repairs of highways, the purchase of materials, tools and appliances, and for the payment of any other incidental expenses pertaining thereto (\$50,000).

Highways, Bridges and Sidewalks

On motion of George H. Clough, it was voted to raise and appropriate the sum of seven thousand five hundred dollars for the removal of snow and ice (\$7500.00).

On motion of George H. Clough, it was voted to raise and appropriate for cleaning drainage ditches the sum of three thousand dollars (\$3000.00).

On motion of W. G. Long, it was voted that there be included in the tax levy for electricity used for street lights the sum of fourteen thousand eight hundred dollars, and that said sum and the income from the sale of electricity to private consumers and for electricity supplied to municipal buildings and for electricity supplied for municipal power and for sale of appliances and jobbing during the current year be appropriated for the municipal lighting plant, the whole to be expended by the manager of municipal lighting under the direction and control of the Municipal Light Board for the expense of the plant for said fiscal year, as defined in Section 57 of Chapter 164 of the General Laws, and that, if said sum and said income shall exceed said expense for said fiscal year, such excess shall be transferred to the construction fund of said plant and appropriated and used for such additions thereto as may be thereafter authorized by the Municipal Light Board (\$14,800.00).

Education

On motion of Walter S. Parker, it was voted to raise and appropriate for Education as follows:

School Department, Salaries	\$107,867.00
Expenses, School Department	33,000.00
Agricultural School, Salaries	4800.00
Expenses	1000.00
Tuition, Industrial Schools	500.00

Public Library

On motion of Arthur N. Mansfield, it was voted to raise and appropriate for the Public Library:

Salaries Public Library	\$2050.00
Expenses Public Library	3050.00

Laurel Hill Cemetery

On motion of Galen A. Parker, it was voted that the Town raise and appropriate the sum of eighty-five hundred fifty-three dollars and eighty-two cents for the care and improvement of Laurel Hill Cemetery (\$8553.82).

On motion of George H. Clough, it was voted to lay on the table that part of Art. 4 relating to recreation.

Memorial Day Observance

On motion of Walter S. Parker, it was voted to raise and appropriate for observance of Memorial Day (\$300.00).

Art. 5. To see if the Town will appropriate from Excess and Deficiency Account the following sums: to balance overdraft in Poor Department Account (\$528.45); for Taxes on Property Taken (\$705.83); for Sewer Assessments on Property Taken (\$189.00; total (1423.28); or what it will do in relation thereto.
(Town Accountant.)

Art. 5. On motion of Leon G. Bent, it was voted that the Town appropriate from Excess and Deficiency Account the following sums: to balance overdraft in the Poor Dept. Acct. (\$528.45); for Taxes on Property Taken (\$705.83); for Sewer Assessments on Property Taken (\$189.00); total (\$1423.28).

Art. 6. To see if the Town will raise and appropriate the sum of two thousand dollars (\$2000.00) and appropriate from Excess and Deficiency Account the sum of fifteen hundred dollars (\$1500.00) for the Reserve Fund as provided by Sect. 6, Chap. 40, General Laws. (Town Accountant.)

Art. 6. On motion of Leon G. Bent, it was voted that the Town raise and appropriate two thousand dollars (\$2000.00), and appropriate from the Excess and Deficiency Account the sum of fifteen hundred dollars (1500.00) for the Reserve Fund, under the provisions of Sect. 6, Chap. 40, of the General Laws.

Art. 7. To see if the Town will authorize the Treasurer, with the approval of the Selectmen, to borrow money from time to time in anticipation of the revenue of the financial year beginning January 1, 1923, and to issue a note or notes therefor, payable within one year, any debt or debts incurred under this vote to be paid from the revenue of said financial year.
(Town Treasurer.)

Art. 7. On motion of Henry H. Kinsley, it was voted that the Town authorize the Treasurer, with the approval of the Selectmen, to borrow money from time to time in anticipation of the revenue of the financial year beginning Jan. 1, 1923, and to issue a note or notes therefor, payable within one year, any debt or debts incurred under this vote to be paid from the revenue of said financial year.

Art. 8. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Treasurer, with the approval of the Selectmen, to renew or refund any notes issued in an-

tipication of revenue for a period of less than one year, in accordance with the provisions of Sec. 17, Chap. 44, General Laws, or what it will do in relation thereto. (Town Treasurer.)

Art. 8. On motion of Henry H. Kinsley, it was voted that the Town authorize the Treasurer, with the approval of the Selectmen, to renew or refund any notes issued in anticipation of revenue for a period of less than one year, in accordance with the provisions of Sec. 17, Chap. 44, of the General Laws.

Art. 9. To see if the Town will raise and appropriate or otherwise provide the sum of three hundred and thirty-six dollars (\$336.00) for the purpose of providing suitable quarters for Veteran Post 194, G. A. R., in accordance with Sec. 5, Chap. 40, General Laws, or what it will do in relation thereto. (Selectmen.)

Art. 9. On motion of Frederick L. Springford, it was voted to raise and appropriate three hundred thirty-six dollars for the purpose of providing suitable quarters for Veteran Post 194, Grand Army of the Republic, in accordance with Sec. 5, Chap. 40, of the General Laws.

Art. 10. To see if the Town will raise and appropriate or otherwise provide the sum of eight hundred and seventy-five dollars (\$875.00) for the care of graves of any person who served in the Army, Navy or Marine Corps of the United States in time of war or insurrection, and has been honorably discharged from such service, as provided in Chap. 115, Sec. 22, of the General Laws, or what it will do in relation thereto.

(Selectmen.)

Art. 10. On motion of Frederick L. Springford, it was voted to raise and appropriate the sum of eight hundred and seventy-five dollars for the care of graves of any person who has served in the Army, Navy or Marine Corps of the United States in time of war or insurrection, and has been honorably discharged from such service, as provided in Sec. 22, Chap. 115, of the General Laws.

Art. 11. To see what action the Town will take relative to the recommendation of the Board of Selectmen for more adequate quarters for the Police Department. (Selectmen.)

Art. 11. On motion of Albert R. Shepardson, it was voted that the subject matter of Art. 11 be referred to a committee of six, consisting of the Moderator and five others to be appointed by the Moderator. The Moderator appointed the Board of Selectmen, Chester J. Wallace and Jesse W. Morton.

Art. 12. To see if the Town will raise and appropriate, or otherwise provide, a sufficient sum for the installation of fire alarm boxes at the following locations: Green Street near Eaton, High Street near Woburn, Pierce and Orange Streets, Pumping Station, Mill Street, Summer Avenue and Woodbine Street, Vine Street, north of Mineral, Woburn Street and Bancroft Avenue. (Selectmen.)

Art. 12. On motion of Frederick L. Springford, it was voted that the Town raise and appropriate the sum of thirteen hundred and twenty dollars for the installation of fire alarm boxes at the following locations: Green Street near Eaton Street, High Street near Woburn, corner Pierce and Orange Streets, Pumping Station, Mill Street, corner of Summer Avenue and Woodbine Street, Vine Street, north of Mineral, corner of Woburn Street and Bancroft Avenue.

Art. 13. To see if the Town will authorize the Selectmen to proceed to perfect the title in such property as is held by the Town for the non-payment of taxes. (Selectmen.)

Art. 13. On motion of Frederick L. Springford, it was voted that the Board of Selectmen be and hereby are authorized and directed to proceed to perfect the title in such property as is held by the Town for non-payment of taxes.

Art. 14. To see what disposition the Town will make of the legacy of one hundred dollars (\$100.00) received from the estate of the late Benjamin L. Fabens. (Selectmen.)

Art. 14. On motion of Leon G. Bent, it was voted that the legacy left to the Town by Benjamin L. Fabens of one hundred dollars be transferred to the Trustees of the Public Library for use of the Public Library.

Art. 15. To see if the Town will raise and appropriate the sum of one hundred and fifty dollars (\$150.00) for the purpose of reimbursing or exonerating the Tax Collector for, or on account of, expenses incurred or to be incurred in attempting to collect taxes assessed on personal property and which have been due and payable for more than a year, or what it will do in relation thereto. (Town Counsel.)

Art. 15. On motion of Frederick L. Springford, it was voted that the Town raise and appropriate the sum of one hundred and fifty dollars for the purpose of reimbursing or exonerating the Tax Collector for, or on account of, expenses incurred or to be incurred in attempting to collect taxes assessed on personal property and which have been due and payable for more than a year.

Art. 16. To see what action the Town will take regarding the installation of additional street lights on the public streets during the year 1923. (Municipal Light Board.)

Art. 16. On motion of William G. Long, it was voted that the subject matter of Art. 16 be referred to the Municipal Light Board, with authority to install such additional lights as in their judgment are necessary, and to make such changes in existing lights as may be advisable, the cost of same to be paid from the Depreciation Fund.

Art. 17. To see if the Town will raise and appropriate, or otherwise provide, a sufficient sum of money to replace the flag pole on the Common, or what it will do in relation thereto. (Otis B. Ruggles and others.)

Art. 17. On motion of Otis B. Ruggles, it was voted that the Town raise and appropriate the sum of five hundred dollars for the purpose of erecting on the Common a 100 foot, wooden topmast flag pole, butt to be not less than nineteen inches in diameter, pole to be fitted with oak cross trees and other necessary fittings, with a suitable ornament on top of mast. Bottom of pole to be preserved with pitch and set in ground with a concrete base. 126 voted "Yes," 47 voted "No."

Art. 18. To see if the Town will raise and appropriate, or otherwise provide, the sum of seventy-five hundred dollars (\$7500.00) to purchase the playground, so called, on Washington Street, for athletic sports, or what it will do in relation thereto. (Reading Baseball Association.)

Art. 18. On motion of Otis B. Ruggles, it was voted that the sum of seventy-five hundred dollars (\$7500.00) be raised and appropriated for the purchase of the playground property, so-called, being land on Washington Street, $5\frac{1}{4}$ acres, more or less, owned by Delia E. Sweetser: said land to be acquired for playground purposes as provided by Sec. 14, Chap. 45, of the General Laws, and that the Treasurer be authorized, with the approval of the Selectmen, to issue notes of the Town therefor in the sum of seventy-five hundred dollars (\$7500.00), with interest not to exceed five per cent per annum; notes to be payable twenty-five hundred dollars in one year, twenty-five hundred dollars in two years, twenty-five hundred dollars in three years, and issued under the provisions of Clause 6, Sect. 8, Chap. 44, of the General Laws. 177 voted "Yes," none voted "No."

Art. 4. On motion of George H. Clough, it was voted to take Art. 4 from the table.

On motion of George H. Clough, it was voted to raise and appropriate for Care of the Common, Park and Supervised Play, two thousand three hundred seventy dollars.

On motion of George H. Clough, it was voted to lay Art. 4 on the table.

Art. 19. To see if the Town will raise and appropriate the sum of two hundred and ninety dollars (\$290.00) for Child Welfare Work, to be expended under the direction of the Reading Visiting Nurse Association, or what it will do in relation thereto.

(Elizabeth H. Brown and others.)

Art. 19. On motion of Elizabeth H. Brown, it was voted to raise and appropriate the sum of two hundred ninety dollars (\$290.00) for Child Welfare Work to be expended under the direction of the Reading Visiting Nurse Association and the Board of Health.

Art. 20. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of one hundred and fifty dollars (\$150.00), or some other amount, and that the Selectmen appoint a director, the money to be expended by and the director to serve in cooperation with the County Agricultural Trustees of the Middlesex County Bureau of Agricultural and Home Economics under the provisions of Sec. 40 to 45, Chap. 128, General Laws.

(Rolland L. Perry.)

Art. 20. On motion of Rolland L. Perry it was voted that the Town raise and appropriate the sum of one hundred and fifty dollars (\$150.00), and that the Selectmen appoint a director, the money to be expended by and the director to serve in co-operation with the County Agricultural Trustees of the Middlesex County Bureau of Agriculture and Home Economics under the provisions of Sections 40 to 45, Chapter 128, of the General Laws. v

Art. 21. To see if the Town will authorize the Selectmen to sell the Parker Tavern Property, so called, and to determine the extent of such authority as may be granted including price, terms of payment and the granting of an option to a prospective purchaser, or what it will do in relation thereto.
(Charles F. Brown and others.)

Art. 21. On motion of Charles F. Brown, it was voted that the Selectmen be authorized and directed to make a conditional sale of the building known as the Parker Tavern and such portion of the land on which said building is located as may not in their judgment be required for use of the Town, for the sum of one hundred dollars, the said sale to be upon the condition that said building shall be used by the purchaser for historical purposes and not as a source of pecuniary profit, and shall revert with the land to the Town unless so used.

Art. 22. To see if the Town will raise and appropriate the sum of twenty-five hundred dollars (\$2500.00) for the purpose of widening Lowell Street to its proper width, as laid out originally by the County Commissioners, and to construct a curb from a point near Winthrop Avenue to the Lowell Street School House to a point nearly opposite High Street on Lowell Street, or what it will do in relation thereto.

(Logan R. Dickie and others.)

Art. 22. On motion of George H. Clough, the subject matter of this article was referred to the Board of Public Works.

Art. 23. To see if the Town will raise and appropriate the sum of five thousand dollars (\$5000.00) for sidewalks, or what it will do in relation thereto.

(Charles H. Swain and others.)

Art. 23. On motion of Albert R. Shepardson, the subject matter of this article was referred to the Board of Public Works.

Art. 24. To see if the Town will accept and maintain such part of Ellis Avenue, leading off Summer Avenue, as has been improved and made passable, or what it will do in relation thereto.

(Byron W. Whitney and others.)

Art. 24. On decision of the Moderator, this article was indefinitely postponed.

Art. 25. To see if the Town will raise and appropriate the sum of two hundred dollars (\$200.00) for grading the sidewalks on Park Avenue, also put in two (2) catch basins to take away the surface water.

(William Carney and others.)

Art. 25. On motion of Albert R. Shepardson, the subject matter of this article was referred to the Board of Public Works.

Art. 2. On motion of Frederick L. Springford, it was voted to take this article from the table.

On motion of Frederick L. Springford, it was voted to accept the report of the Town Officers as printed in the Town Report, also the report of the Finance Committee and Planning Board and Hospital Committee.

On motion of Albert R. Shepardson, it was voted to indefinitely postpone action on proposed hospital gift of John B. Lewis.

On motion of Frederick L. Springford, it was voted to adjourn sine die.

MILLARD F. CHARLES, Town Clerk.

SPECIAL TOWN MEETING

Security Hall, Oct. 29, 1923.

Pursuant to the warrant and the Constable's return thereon, a town meeting was held and was called to order by the Moderator, Jesse W. Morton. The warrant was partially read by the Town Clerk, when it was voted to dispense with further reading except the Constable's return. After the Constable's return was read, the meeting proceeded to business.

Art. 1. To hear and act on reports of town officers and special committees, and determine what instructions will be given the town officers.

Art. 1. On motion of Frederick L. Springford, it was voted to lay this article on the table.

Art. 2. To see if the Town will appropriate and authorize the transfer of the sum of eight hundred and sixty-four dollars and thirty-eight cents (\$864.38), from the Overlay Reserve Fund to the Reserve Fund, or what it will do in relation thereto. (Town Accountant.)

Art. 2. On motion of Leon G. Bent, it was voted that the sum of eight hundred sixty-four dollars and thirty-eight cents (\$864.38) be appropriated from the Overlay Reserve Fund, and that the Town Accountant be authorized to transfer said sum to the Reserve Fund.

Art. 3. To see what sum the Town will raise and appropriate, or otherwise provide, for the purpose of providing funds for extensions and enlargements of the Municipal Light Plant, or what it will do in relation thereto. (Municipal Light Board.)

Art. 3. On motion of Arthur G. Sias, it was voted that there be raised and appropriated for the purpose of extending and enlarging the Municipal Light Plant the sum of (\$10,000.00) in addition to the amount which may be available for such purposes in the Depreciation Fund, to be ex-

pended by the Manager of Municipal Lighting under the direction and control of the Municipal Light Board; and that the Town Treasurer, with the approval of the Selectmen be, and hereby is, authorized to borrow for the above purposes the sum of \$10,000.00, and to issue bonds or notes of the Town therefor, which bonds or notes shall bear interest at a rate not exceeding six per cent (6%) per annum, and shall be payable in accordance with the provisions of Chap. 44 of the General Laws, so that the whole loan shall be paid in not more than twenty (20) years from the date of the first issue of said bonds or notes. 22 voted "Yes" and none "No."

Art. 4. To see if the Town will authorize the Board of Public Works to construct sewers in Sweetser Avenue in accordance with the plans drawn by F. A. Barbour, C. E., and adopted by the Town, or what it will do in relation thereto. (Board of Public Works.)

Art. 4. On motion of George H. Clough, it was voted that the Board of Public Works be, and they hereby are, authorized to construct sewers in Sweetser Avenue, in accordance with plans drawn by F. A. Barbour, C. E., and heretofore adopted by the Town.

Art. 5. To see if the Town will raise and appropriate a sum not to exceed \$15,000 for the purpose of paying for any portion of the cost of installing additional sewers in accordance with plans drawn by F. A. Barbour, C. E., and adopted by the Town, and will authorize the Treasurer, with the approval of the Selectmen, to borrow said sum and issue therefor bonds or notes of the Town, such bonds or notes to be payable in accordance with the provisions of Sec. 7, Chap. 314, Acts of 1909, with amendments thereof and additions thereto, or what they will do in relation thereto. (Board of Public Works.)

Art. 5. On motion of George H. Clough, it was voted that the sum of fifteen thousand dollars (\$15,000.00) be raised and appropriated for the purpose of paying for any portion of the cost of installing additional sewers in accordance with plans drawn by F. A. Barbour, C. E., and adopted by the Town; and that the Treasurer be, and he hereby is, authorized and directed with the approval of the Selectmen, to borrow said sum, and to issue therefor bonds or notes of the Town, such bonds or notes to be payable in accordance with the provisions of Section 7 of Chapter 314 of the Acts of 1909, with amendments thereof and additions thereto, so the same shall be paid in not more than thirty years or such earlier date or dates as the Treasurer and Selectmen may determine. 28 voted "Yes and none "No."

Art. 1. Voted to take this article from the table.

A motion was made as to assessing property which was discussed by Walter L. Legg and others but no action was taken.

Voted to adjourn sine die.

MILLARD F. CHARLES, Town Clerk.

NOTICE TO PARENTS, HOUSEWIVES, PHYSICIANS AND MIDWIVES

Your Attention is Called to the Sections Below Taken from the Revised
Laws—Blank Forms for Return of Births Can be Obtained
of the Town Clerk

SECTION 3, CHAPTER 444, ACTS 1897

Sec. 3. Physicians and midwives shall on or before the fifth day of each month report to the clerk of each city or town a correct list of all children born therein during the month next preceding, at whose birth they were present, stating the date and place of each birth, the name of the child, if it has any, the sex and color of the child, the name, place of birth and residence of the parents, the maiden name of the mother, and occupation of the father. If the child is illegitimate the name of the father shall not be stated, unless at the joint request in writing of both father and mother, which request shall be filed with the returns of births. The fee of the physicians or midwives shall be twenty-five cents for each birth so reported, and shall be paid by the city or town in which the report is made, upon presentation of a certificate from the city or town clerk, stating that said births have been reported in conformity with the requirements of this section. Any physician or midwife neglecting to report such list for ten days after it is due shall for each offence forfeit a sum not exceeding twenty-five dollars.

SECTION 6, CHAPTER 444, ACTS 1897

Sec. 6. Parents and householders shall within forty (40) days after the date of a birth occurring in his house give thereof or cause such notice to be given to the clerk of the city or town in which such child is born.

MILLARD F. CHARLES, Town Clerk.

DOGS LICENSED DURING YEAR 1923

Whole number of licenses issued	398	
67 Female licenses @ \$5.00	\$ 335.00	
330 Male licenses @ \$2.00	660.00	
1 Kennel license @ \$50.00	50.00	
		<hr/>
Total cash received	\$1045.00	
Less fees for 398 licenses	79.60	
		<hr/>
Total due County Treasurer		\$965.40
Paid County Treasurer June 1, 1923	697.20	
Paid County Treasurer Dec. 1, 1923	268.20	
		<hr/>
Total due County Treasurer		\$965.40

HUNTING AND FISHING LICENSES ISSUED IN 1923

1 Alien Fisherman license	\$ 2.00	
88 Hunting and Fishing licenses	176.00	
108 Hunting and Trapping licenses	162.00	
104 Fishing licenses	104.00	
52 Minor Trapping licenses	13.00	
		<hr/>
		\$457.00
353 Licenses issued (fees)	52.95	
		<hr/>
Total paid Fish and Game Commission		\$404.05

1923		
May 9, cash	\$ 93.55	
June 25, cash	48.00	
July 2, cash	24.55	
Aug. 6, cash	29.30	
Sept. 11, cash	26.00	
Oct. 1, cash	59.85	
Nov. 5, cash	99.45	
Dec. 4, cash	20.65	
Jan. 4, cash	2.70	
		<hr/>
Total		\$404.05

MILLARD F. CHARLES, Town Clerk.

BIRTHS REGISTERED IN TOWN OF READING FOR YEAR 1923

Date	Name	Parents
Jan.		
2	Philip Augustus Surrette	Leo A. and Alethea M.
6	Dorothy May Racine	Wilfred J. and Mary Louise
7		
8	Earl Joseph Birchall	Joseph C. and Hattie B.
10	Lawrence Vincent Grant	Joseph A. and Rose
13	John Swain Lynsky	Michael J. and Mary Clara
13	Lillis Janet Childs	George O. and Flora M.
14		
15	Carolyn Lumsden	Robert B. and Josephine E.
15	Charlotte Phyllis Johnson	Edward J. and Edith N.
21	Doris Elizabeth Steele	William J. and Roberta M.
21	Leslie Morgan Slocum	Herbert E. and Ruth F.
21	Elizabeth Cail Addis	Edwin H. and B. Viola
27	Cecelia May Cummings	Augustine P. and Anna D.
29	Robert Nason Larrabee	George E. and Esther H.
Feb.		
4	William Harvey Ambler	Morton H. and Dorothy A.
5	Paul Dana Doucette	William J. and Mary B.
8	Charlene Frances Williams	George B. and Eleanor K.
8	George Watson Hardaker	George W. and Evelyn S.
9	Beth Janice Davidson	Frank C. and Letitia N.
10	Dorothy Frances Meuse	Joseph E. and Elizabeth M.
11	Priscilla Carter Johnson	Ralph S. and Elizabeth G.
14	Paul Geary	Paul J. and Katherine S.
16		
17	Margaret Mary Donahue	Joseph and Irene F.
21	Louis Cornelius Babine	Louis C. and Mary
21	Shirley Eleanor Field	Charles H. and Emma K.
24	Barbara Gonnam	Harold E. and Elizabeth
26	Marjorie Lillian Rathbun	Lloyd E. and Lillian G.
26	David Percy Doucette	Harvey and Beatrice
Mar.		
2		
3	Evelyn Corinne Doucette	Peter S. and Ella M.
4		
6	Esther Margaret Muise	Leslie and Margaret F.
8	Mary Gladys Maguire	Joseph P. and Catherine E.
8	John Walter Marchetti	Hugo H. and Helen J.
11	Margaret Esther Carney	John J. and Christina
12	Nancy Ross	John and Doris May
17		
28	Gloria Sheffield Gibbs	George H. and Evelyn A.
Apr.		
3	Roy James Sherrod, Jr.	Roy J. and Florence M.
4	Richard Beverly Keene	Edward B. and Abbie E.
6	Dorothy Isabel Stratton	Charles and Gertrude F.
8	Morris Thomas Fitzgerald, Jr.	Morris T. and Pauline F.
11	Robert Brackett Tucker	Willis F. and Helen G.

BIRTHS REGISTERED IN TOWN OF READING FOR YEAR 1923

Date	Name	Parents
21	John Alden Loring, Jr.	John A. and Madeline
23	Margaret Laura Christie	Eugene M. and Jennie K.
28	Margaret Howard	Charles P. and Katherine G.
28		
May		
2	Herbert Daniel White	Adolph J. and Laura A.
2	Paul Wilfred Doucette	John J. and Mary E.
6	Charles Duane Perry	Gardner A. and Ethel M.
7	Ralph Ward Jury	Frank H. and Ruth M.
10	Orin Orville Ordway, Jr.	Orin O. and Edna M.
12	Milton Earl Clark	Leon L. and Mildred F.
22	Carleton Perry Adams	Earl W. and Marion A.
23	Alice May Spiller	Edward A. and Amy J.
23	John Cameron Hamilton	James S. and Gundhild H.
26	Ruth Amanda Cobb	Viranas Cobb and Mabel
28	Joseph Alfred Muise	Benjamin and Sylvia
30	Catherine Agnes McDonough	Bartholomew T. and Catherine M.
June		
1		
1	Gertrude Frances Lorgeree	George E. and Mary E.
2	Jean Sargent	Ralph E. and Clara V.
3	Margaret Patricia Joyce	Patrick J. and Lelia
4	Nicholas William Halloran, Jr.	Nicholas W. and Alice R.
5	Orlando Edwin Ames, Jr.	Orlando E. and Ethel F.
7	Gilbert Powers Camp	Harry U. and Adra C.
10	Thelma Currell	Harold B. and Gertrude M.
11	Margery Ellen Maguire	John F. and Margaret
12	James Edmund Wallace	Chester J. and Nancy C.
14	Dorothy May Young	Samuel K. and Viola E.
15	Norma Esther Charles	Norman P. and Esther L.
15	Barbara Elizabeth Tasney	Charles E. and Florence E.
22	John Justin Quinlan, Jr.	John J. and Mary E.
23	Robert Arthur Olsen	Arthur E. and Eugenia M.
24	Andrew James McLaughlin	James A. and Agnes H.
24		
26	Robert Irving Story	Sidney I. and Mary E.
27	Lillian Grace Heselton	Ralph F. and Harriet M.
29	Arthur William Hatfield, Jr.	Arthur W. and Edna C.
29		
July		
3	Philippa Horne	Harold Philip and Irene F.
4	Marjorie Herbolzheimer	Harry W. and Doris H.
4	Kathleen Browne	Thomas R. and Angela B.
5	Gertrude Sophia Dahlquist	Gunnar E. and Helga S.
5	Catherine Isabel Smith	James H. and Sylvia A.
11	Frank Bartlett Hardy	Harold N. and Elvira
11	Katherine May Griffin	John J. and Margaret M.
18	Emmons Joseph Whitecomb	Emmons J. and Vivian B.
28	Marie Theresa Palumbo	John and Mary S.
31	Mary LeFave	John H. and Genevieve C.

BIRTHS REGISTERED IN TOWN OF READING FOR YEAR 1923

Date	Name	Parents
Aug.		
6	Joyce Whittimore VanTassell	Raymond S. and Eleanore U.
8	Stanley Routh Stembridge, Jr.	Stanley R. and Ruth S.
10		
10	Margaret Frances Griffin	James J. and Beatrice F.
12	Thomas James Carey	John J. and Annie F.
18	Marjorie Rose Bourque	Louis A. and Rose L.
19	Marjorie Ruth Wright	Albert J. and Catherine V.
19	Helen Rita Walsh	David J. and Elizabeth F.
20	Lorraine Eulene Day	Fred M. and Marie L.
23	Mary Brouk	Henry and Mary
24	Carol Braun	Alton William and Eleanor F.
30	Edgar John Davis	Edgar J. and Winifred A.
31	Esther Margaret Doucette	Eddie and Marion M.
Sept.		
2	Harry Cameron Barr, Jr.	Harry C. and Alice G.
2	Marceline Mary Babine	Edward and Rosalie
3	Anna Belle Gahan	Arthur M. and Helen M.
5	Van Stone	Edward P. and A. Gertrude
6	Thomas Lyman Jacob	Henry P. and Albertina B.
8	Ruth Shirley Kimball	Walter B. and Marie R. B.
9	Evelyn Marie Comey	Herbert D. and Sadie E.
11	James Edward Dulong	James A. and Mary O.
12	Shirley Bell Milbury	Will R. and Eva J.
12	Elizabeth Eaton White	Harold and Helen W.
13	Anna Bell Gahan	Arthur M. and Helen M.
15	Eleanor May Runge	Carl O. and Dorothy S.
16	Samuel Garfield Miles	Samuel G. and Alice C.
19	Edward Joseph Doucette	Jeremiah and Florence
19	Leonard Enos Rose	John C. and Elizabeth G.
19	Rowena Margaret Damon	Herbert and Jennie H.
19	Natalie E. Cutcliffe	James E. and Josephine B.
22	Catherine Elizabeth Davis	Charles E. and Margaret E.
23	Mildred Louise Bennett	Austin F. and Mary M.
26	Norman Myrton Lloyd	William A. and Jessie L.
28	Helen Sterling Farr	Merle W. and Edna M.
28	James Francis Arsenaault	John R. and Matilda M.
28	Melanson	George and Lillian
29	Peter Jakis Vavoudes, Jr.	Peter J. and Anna A.
30	Clarence James Murphy	Clarence J. and Flora M.
Oct.		
1	Mildred May Smith	William R. and Mary N.
2	William Francis Ployer, Jr.	William F. and Loretta E.
4	Francis Edward Beaudoin	Arthur J. and Annie M.
6	Newton Dickie	Logan R. and Marion B.
7	Ruth Frances Whitten	James F. and Agnes C.
9	James Brunswick Cail, Jr.	James B. and Lillian E.
7	George Edward Brennan	John G. and Sarah H.
12	Robert Michael Cail	Wilbur S. and Margaret R.
15	Chester Morrison Wooldridge	Chester M. and Viola

BIRTHS REGISTERED IN TOWN OF READING FOR YEAR 1923

Date	Name	Parents
18	Janet Frances Amiro	Joseph and Janet M.
29	Virginia Ethel Nevers	Ralph P. and Lorraine M.
31	Herbert Francis Grimes	Fred E. and Alice R.
Nov.		
1	Philip Charles Muise	John A. and Momise E.
3	Virginia Clara Florence	William E. and Edith B.
4	Leo Francis Muise	Peter and Mary
5	George Albert Doucette	Robert E. and Mary L.
7	John Weston	Melville F. and Marion S.
8	Regina Margaret Sawyer	William and Mary
9	Elsie May Mason	Ralph J. and Nellie F.
9	George Henry Doucette	Bernard and Mary E.
19	Irving Warren Holcomb	Charles A. and Edith
19	Robert Andrew Melendy	William O. and Flora A.
21	Mary Alice Flynn	Peter J. and Margaret
25		
29	Richard Joseph Robbins	Jeffery and Emily C.
Dec.		
2	John Storti	John and Edna V.
3	Donald Leroy Plouff	Ralph F. and Lillis M. E.
6	Marjorie Doucette	Raymond G. and Mabel P.
8	Arthur Joseph Dahill	Edward J. and Margaret G.
8	Lennox Schoppelry	Herbert T. and Marjorie L.
11	Francis Herman Doughty	Charles F. and Frances C.
11	Alfred Tyrrell Doughty	Charles F. and Frances Doughty
13	Ruth Harriette Humphrey	George A. and Fleda A.
16	Arthur Earle Knapp	Arthur C. and Eva
17	Patricia Donegan	Maurice H. and Doris M.
18	Philip Joseph Doucette	Jeffery and Catherine
21	Elmer Herbert Adams	Lester C. and Leona P.
28	Robert Knight Bingham	John W. and Marjorie A.
29	Edwin Vincent Seero	Edwin and Annie D.
31	Stella Marie Pollitz	Otto F. F. and Merle R.

MARRIAGES REGISTERED IN TOWN OF READING FOR YEAR 1923

Date	Names	Age	Occupation	Residence
Jan.				
1	Gerald Horace Brooks	22	Chauffeur	Reading
	Mildred May Averill	20	Stenographer	No. Reading
17	Arthur M. Ward	45	Fisherman	Reading
	Lucy MacDonald	32	Housework	Reading
29	Harold N. Hardy	23	Chauffeur	Reading
	Elvera Milliken	25	Housekeeper	Reading
Feb.				
10	George Frank Willard	22	Instructor	Reading
	Edna Eleanor Satre	25	Stenographer	Reading
11	Henry Albert Castine	21	Shoemaker	Reading
	Eileen Pearl Hall	18	At home	Reading
11	Chester L. White	21	Shoemaker	Reading
	Cora L. Hardy	17	At home	Reading
17	Louis E. Demars	33	Chauffeur	Reading
	Anna A. (Mooney) Ross	24	Bookkeeper	Reading
17	Walden W. Watters	22	Welder	Boston
	Amy C. Sanborn	21	Clerk	Boston
Mar.				
2	Alton William Braun	21	Ticker Clerk	Reading
	Eleanor Frances Parker	21	Stenographer	Reading
10	Leon F. MacDonald	26	Battery Maker	Reading
	Jennie Johnson	32	Secretary	Boston
10	John J. Granfield	27	Heating Engineer	Reading
	Doris Madeline Hill	20	Stenographer	Reading
21	Lincoln Tucker Prescott	26	Clerk	Jamaica Plain
	Elizabeth Tyler Carter	26	None	Reading
26	Bruce Gustave Swanson	39	Clerk	Wakefield
	Grace Frances Skinner	37	Clerk	Reading
28	Walter M. Hovey	57	Janitor	Lowell
	Charlotte Lillian Johnston	50	Mill Operative	Lowell
31	Howard G. Burns	32	Gold Plater	Reading
	Mae L. Young	19	Housework	Wilmington
31	Earl Ross Hutchinson	23	Trainman	Reading
	Sarah Gray McCoy	19	Mail Clerk	Boston
Apr.				
1	Albert D. Gadbois	24	Packer	Reading
	Rose A. Frotten	17	Knitter	Melrose
8	Dana Oscar Miller	47	Plumber	Reading
	Annie Maude Henry Wormell	44	At home	Reading
10	George Patterson	27	Coremaker	Reading
	Agnes E. Rees	30	Operator	Reading
12	Joseph Amirault	22	Rubber Worker	Reading
	Jeanette Muise	19	Shoeworker	Reading
14	Ralph E. Hunnewell	24	Salesman	Hudson, N. H.
	Josephine C. Flanagan	18	At home	Reading
15	Morris Anthony Tucker	26	Clerk	Boston
	Dorothy Mildred Currell	25	Clerk	Reading
19	Ralph Alexander Gray	21	Manager	Reading
	Alvina Elizabeth Gay	20	Printer	Stoneham

MARRIAGES REGISTERED IN TOWN OF READING FOR YEAR 1923

Date	Names	Age	Occupation	Residence
19	Jesse Nason Hutchinson Florence (Leighton) Dickenson	53	Janitor	Reading
22	Peter Arsenault Obelin Peters	53 26	At home Painter	Cambridge Reading
26	Norman L. Rand Margaret F. Porter	19 22	Auto Mechanic At home	Kennebunk, Me. Reading
29	James McLellan Ruth White	21 19	Shipper Millhand	Winchester Reading
May				
7	Thomas Peabody Johnson Florence Louise Pedersen	56 37	Trainman Housekeeper	Reading Melrose
12	Henry F. Bowes Agnes May Burns	42 42	Spreader At home	Melrose Reading
16	Joseph Louis Marchetti Helen Carolyn Burns	22 22	Inspector Shoe worker	Reading Wakefield
20	Michael John McGrath Julie Alice Gallant	29 21	Rubber Worker Rubber Worker	Andover Reading
24	William H. Manning Lillian M. Bancroft	51 49	Weigher Housewife	Reading Reading
June				
1	Whitman Irving Freeman Florence Morgan Anthony	24 22	Organ Pipe Maker At home	Reading Reading
2	Arthur Henry Stock Martha C. Henry	19 21	Millhand At home	Reading Reading
4	George W. Gile Phyllis E. M. Towle	26 23	Engineer Housekeeper	Dorchester Reading
7	Harold Vanderelst Williams Elise Brecker	25 26	Physician Teacher	Reading Lawrence
9	Forrest G. Field Helen M. Bearse	67 50	Retired Housekeeper	Peterboro, N. H. Peterboro, N. H.
10	John Louis Lefave Mabel Marie Doucette	25 18	Moulder Housework	Everett Reading
11	Wilfred E. Pratt Marion Wiswall Crafts	30 34	Chauffeur At home	Stoneham Reading
12	J. D. Murray Sutherland Georgia M. Finnegan	28 28	Brakeman Pianist	Reading Boston
16	Isaac Chase Grace W. Eaton	50 49	Mechanic Necktie Worker	Reading Reading
17	Daniel Cullinane Margaret H. Condon	39 36	Accountant At home	Reading Dorchester
20	Leslie Cox Hadley Annie S. Doucette	22 18	Chauffeur Packer	Reading Wilmington
23	Alan B. Campbell Carolyn E. Buxton	28 27	Wool Salesman At home	East Milton Reading
23	Carl W. Batchelder Elva J. Clyde	22 25	Machinist Teacher	Boston Woburn
24	Frank S. Burke Mabel C. Smith	24 16	Fish Handler Weaver	Reading Reading
30	Louis Davis Priseilla Twombly	30 22	Insurance Teacher	Reading Reading

MARRIAGES REGISTERED IN TOWN OF READING FOR YEAR 1923

Date	Names	Age	Occupation	Residence
July				
1	Joseph Patrick Morris	23	Rubber Worker	Reading
	Martha Muise	18	Brush Worker	Reading
4	Walter B. Kimball	44	Salesman	Reading
	Marie R. Brown	22	Telephone Operator	Medford
7	David James Martin	22	Mechanic	Reading
	Ethel Althea Stevens	20	At home	Reading
21	George Gilbert Asnault	21	Carpenter	Reading
	Florence Sophia Barton	17	Packer	Wilmington
28	Albert Charles Goodwin	29	Merchant	Reading
	Elsie May Hobby	28	Dentist Assistant	Reading
29	Francis L. Sullivan	22	Ironworker	Reading
	Dorothy Ethel Short	20	At home	Malden
30	Henry Stephen Peterson	43	Hair Dresser	Reading
	Kathryn Eileen Quinn	40	Milliner	Woburn
Aug.				
9	Frederick Handel Clark	49	Salesman	Reading
	Clara I. Richardson	39	Clerk	Reading
15	Loris Johnston Smith	27	Bookkeeper	Reading
	Pearl Elizabeth Moore	22	At home	Reading
15	Charles W. Shute	34	Machinist	Hyde Park
	Bertha M. Reynolds	24	Bookkeeper	Wakefield
18	Howard Henry Gaskill	27		Arlington
	Alice Storey Hardcastle	21		Arlington
18	Robert S. Granfield	21	Clerk	Reading
	Eleise Cobb	21	At home	Swampscott
18	Robert Fairchild Elder	21	Chem. Engineer	Los Angeles, Cal.
	Ethel Maynard Churchill	22	At home	Lynn
19	George Thomas Hickey	22	Fisherman	Reading
	Elizabeth Loretta Meuse	17	Housework	Reading
19	Daniel Lawrence Reardon	27	Chauffeur	Wakefield
	Gladys Augusta Surrutte	22	Stenographer	Reading
20	Lawrence Lyman Horton	28	Foreman	Brighton
	Marion Preston MacDougall	21	Stenographer	Reading
21	George Washington Hoyt	32	Asst. Supt.	New York, N. Y.
	Elsie Moran	38	Nurse	Springfield, Vt.
23	Warren Foster Charles	27	Clerk	Reading
	Katherine Villa Skinner	35	Dressmaker	Yarmouth, N. S.
23	Frank Shaw O'Brien	25	Printer	Reading
	Delia Frances Riley	25	Graduate Nurse	Reading
28	John A. Boyd	62	Engineer	Reading
	Margaret A. French	52	Hairdresser	Woburn
Sept.				
2	John Harry Muise	19	Stone Mason	Reading
	Mary Phoebe Surette	23	Waitress	Wilmington
2	Christopher Knight	37	Teamster	Reading
	Mary Meuse	42	Housekeeper	Reading
5	John O'Malley	32	Rubber Worker	Reading
	Anna Conlin	32	At home	Reading
5	George Wilbur Hooper	55	Laundry	Salem
	Rebekah Louisa Bruorton	40	Teacher	Reading

MARRIAGES REGISTERED IN TOWN OF READING FOR YEAR 1923

Date	Names	Age	Occupation	Residence
12	Levi Reynolds	27	U. S. Mail Clerk	Reading
	Gladys Cail Foster	26	At home	Reading
16	Carl Spencer Cook	29	Brakeman	Reading
	Eleanor Elizabeth Purtell	18	Rubber Worker	Dorchester
16	Arthur Leo Redmond	26	Chef	Montreal, Can.
	Blanche Veronica Colford	25	At home	Reading
22	Herbert Austin Brackett, Jr.	21	Salesman	Reading
	Gladys Linn Whaley	23	Stenographer	No. Cambridge
22	Russell Lowell Sawyer	23	Clerk	Reading
	Hortense Douglas Solomon	23	Bookkeeper	Reading
22	Harold Miner Rogers	20	Chemist	Reading
	Hattie Olivia Newcomb	19	At home	Stoneham
26	Robert Reuben Sewell	23	Cotton Salesman	Reading
	Katherine Purnell	22	At home	Scituate
27	Theodore Wright Turner	19	Garage Helper	No. Reading
	Alice Marion Coles	18	At home	Reading

Oct.

1	George Eli Gadbois	26	Shoemaker	Reading
	Mary Marguerite Amirault	30	Housework	Reading
1	William Edwin Johnson	43	Conductor	Reading
	Blanche Louise Glover	34	At home	Melrose
3	Harry Sumner Wright	54	Plumber	Reading
	Margaret Jane Matheson	40	Nurse	Reading
12	Carroll Edward Valentine	29	Elec. Engineer	Pittsburg, Pa.
	Nellie Philena Whitmore	34	Teacher	Seal Harbor, Me.
17	John J. Ferrick	31	Highway Dept.	Reading
	Hannah Bowen	28	Domestic	Reading
17	William James Scanlon	25	Meat Cutter	Reading
	Florence Cecilia O'Connell	23	Bookkeeper	Andover
18	Edward Joseph Muise	27	Bowling & Billiard Prop.	Annapolis Royal, N. S.
	Mary Madeline Amero	22	Housework	Reading
21	Wilfra Louis Swindlehurst, Jr.	27	Salesman	Melrose
	Margaret Theresa Carney	24	Knitter	Reading
24	Francis Timothy Slack	30	Police Officer	Reading
	Mary M. Desmond	28	Clerk	Reading
26	John Woodbury Harrison	21	Carpenter	Reading
	Bertha Elizabeth Ward	21	Stenographer	Reading
30	Abraham Lipson	23	Clerk	Roxbury
	Lillian Menovich	23	Clerk	Reading

Nov.

2	Everett W. McLeod	21	Milkman	Reading
	Grace Mildred Richardson	18	Salesgirl	Reading
2	Harold S. Stevens	20	Student	Reading
	Ella Gertrude Lovering	18	Stenographer	Reading
4	John Leander Muse	27	Shoemaker	Wakefield
	Sylvia White	24	Machine Operator	Reading
17	Vincent Leslie	61	Carpenter	Boston
	Mary Etta (Proctor) Thompson	53	Housework	Reading
24	Hamlet Richardson Bancroft	41	Shipper	Reading
	Jennie Verena Bradley	38	Clerk	Roxbury

MARRIAGES REGISTERED IN TOWN OF READING FOR YEAR 1923

Date	Names	Age	Occupation	Residence
25	Jerome Downing	41	Farmer	Wilmington
	Sara Duff	38	Housekeeper	Reading
25	William Lewis Mellen	25	Printer	Reading
	Mary Christine Devaney	22	Stenographer	Stoneham
26	Ernest William Meuse	19	Shoemaker	Stoneham
	Annie Mildred Frotten	18	Stenographer	Reading
Dec.				
15	Clayton Alward Tracy	26	Steamfitter	Reading
	Mildred Olive Bennett	24	At home	Reading

DEATHS REGISTERED IN TOWN OF READING FOR YEAR 1923

Date	Name	Y	M	D	Cause of Death
Jan.					
4	Grace F. Jones	29	9	26	Acidosis
7					
9	Pearl V. Gaffney	0	9	22	Pneumonia
9	Francis E. Doucette	84	1	9	Pneumonia
11	Benjamin G. Jones	59	6	11	Indigestion
11	Theresa F. Lynch	35	1	28	Embolism
11	Earl Joseph Birchall	0	0	3	Stenosis
14					
16	Myer A. Esner	54	—	—	Angina Pectoris
16	Alfred B. Smith	62	2	17	Pneumonia
18	Caleb F. Stevens	84	4	27	Apoplexy
20	Edward F. Golladay	39	6	15	Pneumonia
24	Laura C. Dunbar	36	6	16	Tuberculosis
24	Lillian Whitefield	83	0	30	Pneumonia
28	Theresa M. Gray	39	0	20	Tuberculosis
Feb.					
8	Timothy J. Cummings	65	—	—	Carcinoma
8	Peter Cunningham	80	8	25	Arterio Sclerosis
10	Mary B. Glidden	70	9	4	Cancer
12	Thomas B. Middlebrook	69	0	1	Heart Disease
14					
15	Ellen Maguire	58	—	—	Hemorrhage
19	Margaret M. Donahue	0	0	1	Hemorrhage
19					
24	Russell C. Wade	19	10	9	Pneumonia
26	Alphonse Bertrand	73	0	8	Hemorrhage
Mar.					
1	Thomas J. Mathews	42	3	23	Volvulus
2					
3	Nathaniel Farrant	60	6	8	Phthisis
7	Elizabeth H. Belcher	1	0	13	Fistula
7	Mary L. Perry	79	2	13	Myocarditis
8	James A. Bancroft	88	8	13	Hypertrophy
10	Clara J. Wadsworth	34	8	1	Pneumonia
10	Thomas F. Turner	32	11	10	Tuberculosis
13	George V. Hickman	15	1	4	Endocarditis
13	William A. Stevens	86	7	22	Nephritis
14	Elizabeth F. Whitney	79	7	7	Hemorrhage
16	Abby C. Clark	91	8	4	Heart Disease
17	Mary C. Richardson	69	6	25	Pneumonia
23	Luey A. Mack	73	0	6	Carcinoma
25	Peter Doucette	48	7	4	Accidental Burns
27	Marion Meuse	4	8	15	Heart Failure
29	Everett B. Richardson	74	6	11	Heart Disease
29	Delia A. Knight	55	3	17	Nephritis
Apr.					
1	William E. Pollard	70	9	24	Carcinoma
3	Anna Smith	66	1	22	Carcinoma
6	Lavinia Myers	78	1	27	Arterio Sclerosis

DEATHS REGISTERED IN TOWN OF READING FOR YEAR 1923

Date	Name	Y	M	D	Cause of Death
11	Minnie Fratus	43	9	—	Automobile Accident
12	Alice Barrows	65	4	26	Myocarditis
13	Clarissa J. Brown	85	10	12	Carcinoma
14	Leonard T. Eames	68	9	7	Obstructing Prostate
18	Mary G. Turner	39	4	5	Tuberculosis
22	George A. Smith	72	1	1	Paralysis
22	Julia A. Michelini	51	8	13	Pneumonia
27	Thomas L. Putnam	81	6	18	Myocarditis
27	Sarah A. Jones	88	—	—	Apoplexy
May					
3	Mary A. O'Connor	4	9	29	Endocarditis
17	Susan A. Thompson	64	5	24	Anaemia
20	Jane A. Cummings	94	2	0	Arterio Sclerosis
21	Rachel A. Coggin	81	11	3	Myocarditis
24	Frederick W. Allen	54	—	21	Gastric Ulcer
27	Dohert Lavery	—	2	8	Asidosis
June					
2	Charles H. Moore	81	6	12	Hemorrhage
6	Lizzie M. Poock	67	—	25	Myocarditis
6	John W. Perry	30	8	19	Phthisis
6	Catherine Meekins	52	3	28	Hemorrhage
9	Ivar Gustavson	28	9	4	Motoreycle Accident
12	Arthur C. Copeland	73	10	17	Arterio Sclerosis
13	Aaron F. Prichard	21	10	14	Automobile Accident
16	Alice M. Spiller	—	—	24	Congenital Heart
18	Mary E. Burgess	88	10	1	Carcinoma
18	Walter J. Bailey	52	6	16	Myocarditis
19	John Fitzpatrick	1	1	5	Broncho-Pneumonia
20	Mary E. Castine	1	5	18	Gastritis
21	Flora E. Cook	48	9	21	Epilepsy
21	Carl M. Johnson	58	0	25	Hemorrhage
22	Franz C. Baumann	34	6	16	Cancer
24					
28	John MacMonagle	60	4	5	Pancreatitis
July					
11	Charles Kaiser	50	—	—	Heart Disease
12	Ellen Morrison	77	6	1	Exhaustion
12	Enoria M. Walsh	53	2	6	Arterio Sclerosis
15	Marion V. Kimball	14	3	2	Heart Disease
19	John C. Phinney	71	2	20	Sclerosis
Aug.					
1					
9	James L. Castine	4	5	26	Pneumonia
19	Ellen A. Lerner	63	3	17	Embolism
22	Stephen Muse	48	10	—	Embolism
23	Elizabeth L. Sawyer	73	11	10	Hemorrhage
23	R. Dexter Clapp	70	6	25	Arterio Sclerosis
23	George Parslow	78	8	2	Heart Disease
26	Mary E. Sewall	72	—	8	Uremia

DEATHS REGISTERED IN TOWN OF READING FOR YEAR 1923

Date	Name	Y	M	D	Cause of Death
Sept.					
5	Lewis M. Bancroft	71	9	5	Hemorrhage
6					
10	Clara Schiena	—	4	8	Marasmus
12	Annie J. Bancroft	65	—	13	Hemorrhage
16	Caroline E. Adams	80	4	27	Myocarditis
16	Robert B. Weston	43	—	14	Myelitis
17	Edward E. Rudolph	45	5	1	Alcoholism
20	Elizabeth E. Cummings	57	11	13	Carcinoma
21	Sarah A. Pitman	79	6	14	Heart Disease
23	Eugene W. Clark	79	—	20	Hemorrhage
28	Mary H. Richardson	89	9	19	Intestinal Obstruction
Oct.					
3	John E. Fox	78	4	4	Heart Disease
3	Endocia V. MacMonagle	60	4	12	Cancer
10	Alfred W. Danforth	79	11	11	Heart Disease
10	Mary M. Cullinane	44	1	10	Tuberculosis
16	William F. Ployer	—	—	14	Hemorrhage
17	Clarence Tucker	55	8	7	Pneumonia
24	Anna M. Sargent	64	—	—	Diabetes
28	Patrick Leary	58	3	23	Pneumonia
29	Dionis Weber	90	5	28	Myocarditis
Nov.					
3	Adelaide M. Gentner	55	16	22	Pneumonia
4	Sarah S. Trask	85	—	23	Bronchitis
12	William N. Fletcher	94	6	8	Myocarditis
24	Mary J. Flint	85	2	4	Hemorrhage
25					
Dec.					
1	Chester W. Broyn	42	1	14	Tuberculosis
5	Albert P. Damon	87	5	27	Hemorrhage
14	Katherine V. Turner	18	7	6	Tuberculosis
16	Samuel R. Abbott	70	2	29	Cancer
17	Arabella Davis	50	—	7	Carcinoma
18	Nahum M. Nickerson	57	7	1	Angina Pectoris
18	Hattie L. Smith	63	1	8	Carcinoma
20	Kenney C. Lowell	82	4	29	Pneumonia
21	Rena F. Doucette	1	7	2	Bronchitis
29	Mary E. Lord	83	7	20	Carcinoma
29	Alice F. Hunt	62	3	17	Hemorrhage

THIRD ANNUAL REPORT BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS

The report of our Superintendent sets forth the activities of the departments operating under the direction of this Board.

Expenditures of each department are set forth in complete detail and we invite careful attention to these expenditures and to the results obtained.

Some improvement will be noted in the use of sewers by property owners to whom they are available, but we must again urge the prompt connection of property abutting on sewers now laid as a duty which the owners owe to the community.

The Water Department has been on a self-supporting basis during the year, and has also paid all construction charges from available receipts. For the years 1924 and 1925 bond maturities are heavy and this department will be restricted in expenditures for Service Extensions.

We are recommending a beginning on drainage work for 1924, for which plans have been completed, and on which substantial expenditures should be made annually to gradually complete this most important and necessary improvement.

We feel that the condition of our streets is gradually improving, and that such improvement will continue from year to year, if the programme which has been established is followed with patience and persistence.

Respectfully submitted,

JOSEPH W. BOOTH,
GEORGE H. CLOUGH, Chairman,
JOHN W. OWEN,
CHARLES VAN STONE,
CLARENCE C. WHITE, Sec'y,

Board of Public Works.

ORGANIZATION

George H. Clough, Chairman	Term expires 1925
C. C. White, Secretary	“ “ 1924
Joseph W. Booth	“ “ 1926
Charles Van Stone	“ “ 1924
John W. Owen	“ “ 1925
Harry B. Collins, Supt.	
L. M. Cook, Clerk	

HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT

Edward Crowe, Supt.

WATER AND SEWER DEPARTMENTS

Frank Strout, Chief Engineer, P. S.

Grover Eaton, 1st Assistant P. S.

George Putnam, Foreman Water Dept.

Alex Richmond, Foreman Sewer Dept.

C. J. Jaquith, Clerk Water Dept.

PARK DEPARTMENT

The work of this department was carried on by the men of the above departments.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

December 31, 1923.

To the Board of Public Works:

Gentlemen: As required by Section 4, Chapter 118, of an Act authorizing the Town of Reading to establish a Board of Public Works, I most respectfully submit for your consideration, the third annual report of the Department of Public Works, the Highway, Water, Sewer and Park, including a financial report of each department, and a chronicle of the principal work performed with recommendations for the coming year.

HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT

Appropriations and Balances.

1. Voted in March Town Meeting for highway maintenance	\$ 50,000.00
2. Removal of snow and ice.....	7,500.00
3. Cleaning drainage ditches	3,000.00
4. Balance to be spent on Survey and plans for Special Drainage System	2,500.00
5. Balance to be spent on sidewalk No. Main St.	175.06
6. Balance to be spent on Forest St.	307.54
7. Balance to be spent on South St. ...	538.08
 Total	 \$ 64,020.68

Expenditures and Balance of the above appropriations.

1. Appropriation for Highway Main- tenance	\$ 50,000.00
Pay Roll Distribution:	
1. General	\$ 3,654.92
2. Maintenance	5,719.60
3. Catch Basins	299.31
4. Gutters	739.33
5. Drains and Culverts	778.85
6. K. P. Patching	933.92
7. Repairs to equipment	555.86
8. Shop	731.14
9. Burning Leaves	153.09
10. Crushing Stone	327.77
11. Cutting Brush	399.62

12. Sidewalks	486.89	
13. Sand Pit	185.65	
14. Gravel Pit	40.13	
15. Miscellaneous	2.86	
	<hr/>	\$15,008.94

Bills:

1. General Repairs	\$ 3,584.97	
2. Tools and Supplies	985.42	
3. Oil and Gasoline	856.48	
4. 45% Asphalt Oil	2,776.71	
5. 65% Asphalt Oil	525.19	
6. Bermudez and Texas Asphalt	680.00	
7. Tarvia A	300.00	
8. Tarvia B	10,059.38	
9. Tarvia X	2,287.50	
10. Tarvia K. P.	742.99	
11. Crushed Stone	2,471.81	
12. Hauling Stone	559.78	
13. Freight and Express	109.86	
14. Sidewalk Construction	4,018.74	
15. Municipal Light Dept.	52.12	
16. Telephone	55.35	
17. Printing	125.45	
18. Drain Construction	313.00	
19. Ford Runabout	352.08	
20. Tractor	1,410.00	
21. Miscellaneous	1,759.92	
	<hr/>	\$34,026.75

Total		\$ 49,035.69
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Balance, unexpended		\$ 964.31
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|---|--|-------------|
| 2. Appropriation for the removal of
Snow and Ice. | | \$ 7,500.00 |
|---|--|-------------|

Expended:

1. Pay Roll	\$ 3,682.12
2. Cost of snow plowing	2,448.50
3. Repairs to equipment	626.12
4. Gasoline	288.74
5. Miscellaneous	429.08

Total		7,474.56
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Balance unexpended		\$ 25.44
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- | | | |
|---|--|-------------|
| 3. Appropriation for Cleaning Drain-
age Ditches | | \$ 3,000.00 |
|---|--|-------------|

Expended:

1. Pay Roll	\$ 263.15
2. Bills (Outside labor and materials)	2,439.04

Total	2,702.19
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Balance, unexpended	\$ 297.81
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4. Appropriation for Survey and Plans for Special Drainage	\$ 2,500.00
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Expended:

1. Barbour & Dixon, Engineers	\$ 1,500.00
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Balance, unexpended	\$ 1,000.00
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5. Balance to be spent on sidewalk No. Main St.	\$ 175.06
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(No expenditures in 1923)

6. Balance to be spent on Forest St. (No expenditures in 1923)	\$ 307.54
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7. Balance to be spent on South St. (No expenditures in 1923)	\$ 538.08
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TOTALS

Items	Appropriations	Expenditures	Balance	Balance carried to 1924
1.	\$50,000.00	\$49,035.69	\$ 964.31	
2.	7,500.00	7,474.56	25.44	
3.	3,000.00	2,702.19	297.81	
4.	2,500.00	1,500.00	1,000.00	\$1,000.00
5.	175.06	————	175.06	175.06
6.	307.54	————	307.54	307.54
7.	538.08	————	538.08	538.08
	<u>\$64,020.68</u>	<u>\$60,712.44</u>	<u>\$3,308.24</u>	<u>\$2,020.68</u>

As may be seen by the distribution account in the item of snow and ice, a much larger expenditure was necessary this past year, to keep the sidewalks and roads open for traffic.

With the added concentrated weight of trucking and pleasure vehicles, the condition of the Highways in the spring is due largely to the formation of ruts, which prevents the distribution of these concentrated loads over the entire wearing surface. The constant rasping of chains, necessary for traction, is another element which tears to pieces the rain-coat blanketing which is constructed to keep moisture from the surface.

The demand for better road conditions during all seasons of the year due to the unprecedented growth of the use of the automobile is

for an ideal type of road to be available immediately. Because the National Government and numerous State Legislatures have authorized the expenditure of staggering amounts for roads, (ideal roads), in no way indicates that it is practical for communities such as the Town of Reading to enter upon such a construction program which is too expensive for the average town, and hence a common sense course should prevail.

Road building is a process which requires time to perfect. The problem which confronts the Board of Public Works is the construction of roads in such a manner as will insure the greatest possible amount of service, taking into consideration the original cost of the construction, and the cost of maintenance. Every road, no matter what type it may be, requires constant care and attention to keep it in good condition. With this in view, the Board of Public Works more than doubled the quantity of heavy road tar applied last year, since it was to their best judgment a type of road best suited to the financial condition and practical needs of the Town.

In general our roads may be divided into three classes: (a) main roads or truck lines; (b) connecting roads ; and (c) local feeders or residential roads. It is clear that each of these classes will require different treatment. It is perhaps not quite so clear that the same also holds true in general for each of the several roads of the same class, and often for even the several sections of any given road. Each road and every section of any road should be improved with that type of surfacing which will best answer the traffic requirements at the least total annual outlay, construction and maintenance after completion considered.

Every type of road surfacing has a fairly definite value or ability to render service under a given condition and a corresponding cost. A gravel road in the right place is as good as a brick road where brick or other material is required, and because of the difference of price, a great deal better than a brick road would be, where only gravel is actually required.

The orderly and economic execution of any improvement of roads is dependent, first, on the existence of a definite and well ordered plan for the work to be done, and second, on a properly organized and directed force equipped for carrying out the work as planned.

Bearing these thoughts in mind, the Board of Public Works laid out a well defined program for the coming year, and upon investigating the rolling equipment of the Department, deemed it wise to purchase a new autocar chassis, to replace the first one bought by the Town four years ago. Before the snow and ice were gone the equipment was thoroughly overhauled and put in order.

As soon as the weather permitted all catch basins were cleaned, a general inspection of existing drains made, and road surfaces which had begun to break up during the winter months were patched.

On account of the excessive amount of melting snow, it was found that the old stone culverts on Haverhill St. north of Charles and on Charles St. between Pearl and Wakefield, had become badly clogged which kept the water from running off, thus flooding considerable areas. At these two places 30-inch expanded metal culverts replaced the old stone ones which were, upon opening, found to be in very poor and dangerous condition. While the service drain which runs from the junction of Eaton and Elm, up under Pleasant and then through Memorial Park, was being ditched, it was found that the old stone culvert on Pleasant St. proved to be also in very poor shape and that too was replaced by a 30-inch expanded metal pipe. A short drain was laid and two catch basins were constructed on Pleasant St. to take care of the surface water running from Middle St. east. While repairing a ground water leak in the main sewer on Eaton St., it was noted that the old stone culvert was practically filled and that the sidewalls were in a dangerous condition. This culvert was replaced by one of reinforced concrete according to the plans and specifications of the new drainage system which the Board had received from Mr. Barbour's office. On account of the ever pressing work of the Highway Department, Mr. John Williams was given this work to attend to, assisted by men from the Highway and Water Departments.

Another 8-inch drain with a catch basin at the end, was constructed on South Main St. from the brook which runs along by Newhouse's Filling Station, to a point 200 feet south, to take care of surface water which stands on the sidewalk during rainy weather. Other drains, ditches and culverts about town have been repaired and cleaned. The appropriation for this purpose another year should be half again as large as the Department had this, to carry on necessary work.

The Department started its road work on May 2nd, on Mineral St., west of the Mineral St. bridge. During the course of the year 38,509 gallons of 45% asphalt oil was used for dust preventative on the less traveled streets; 5,056 gallons of 65% asphalt oil and 80,475 gallons of tarvia B on streets more traveled than those where the oil had been applied. The above applications covered an approximate area of 477,554 square yards, at an average of 3.85 gallons per square yard. It is interesting to note that 85% more area was covered this year than last, and to give a clearer idea of the amount of road surface covered with the quantity of tarvia and oil which we used, one might say that it would cover a 40 foot street 33.92 miles long with a road bed of 24 feet, 5 feet on each side used as a sidewalk, and 3 feet for tree lawns. In covering the tarvia approximately 525 loads of sand were hauled from the sand pit.

To some extent the gravel bank on Mishawam Road, Woburn, has been used to build up on different streets, the old road surfaces which were very badly worn.

On account of the time taken to do the above work the amount of semi-permanent construction has not been as great as that accomplished last year. The following, however, has been done by the Department. The shoulders of Lowell St. carried out to the full width on both sides from Middlesex Ave. to Lowell St. Bridge; the east shoulder of West St. from the Town line to the entrance of L. B. Lewis estate; that portion of Woburn St. between Main and Lowell, running through the Common; and east of the car tracks on Lowell between Main and Woburn; the rear entrance drive to the Municipal Building, and the Main St. entrance to Laurel Hill Cemetery from Main St. to the Tomb. The total area covered is approximately 8,700 square yards at an average cost of \$0.89 per square yard.

The north side of Middlesex Ave. and a portion of West Street have been seal coated. The materials used in the above work were 21,100 gallons of tarvia X, 2,400 gallons tarvia A, 2,000 gallons of 96% asphalt, 2,000 gallons of Bermudez asphalt, and 1,706.74 tons of different grades of stone hauled mostly by the Department trucks. 121.40 tons of stone have been used in patching about Town, and 588.19 tons for sidewalk maintenance. This latter work was very much needed and was on the following sidewalks:—Main St. from Salem to Ridge Road; Salem St. from Lowell to Winter; a part of Temple St.; Hill Crest Road, Union, Middle, High, Pierce, Belmont, Warren Ave., John St. from Salem to Pleasant, and Pleasant St. from the Square to Manning St.

A table at the end of this report will give the total amount spent on each street this past year, itemizing the account into different kinds of work. Also the miscellaneous expenditures, the total of which shows the distribution of the Highway appropriation for the year.

Other work was performed, of less importance, such as hauling coal to Pumping Station and Municipal Buildings; the repairs of the Highway Department's equipment by the force; bushing out the side lines of out-lying streets, etc.

In accordance with an understanding which was expressed at the March town meeting, the Board of Public Works advertised in the Reading Chronicle that the Highway Department would construct sidewalks during the latter part of the year; half the cost to be paid by the abutters. One application was received. The Board realizing that certain repairs on sidewalks about town were necessary, let this work out by contract since the Highway Department at that time had not completed their working schedule.

The contract was awarded to C. L. Hoffman, he being the lowest bidder. Fourteen hundred and sixty square yards were laid in different sections about town.

The study for the development of a surface water drainage system for the town has been completed and a very comprehensive report ac-

accompanied with plans showing present and future developments along these lines are now in the possession of the Board of Public Works. The plans consist of a general plan showing present drains, water courses and swamp areas; another showing the proposed drainage system; and forty-eight plans giving the data relating to the present and proposed system of drains, culverts and brooks, the profiles and cross sections, details of catch basins and inlets, and typical layout at street intersections, etc., for the entire future development. The future construction on drainage work can now be directed towards an ultimate aim and the Superintendent earnestly hopes that the board may see their way clear to begin this construction this coming year.

The Town needs this system for sanitary purposes and for the development of our Highways. There is no need to go into reasons for sanitation, but for the latter, (road foundations), the evil effects of capillary moisture, particularly during the period of time when frost is coming out of the ground (which is at that period when our streets get the greatest damage) explains the seemingly uncalled for heaving of some road foundations, due to lack of drainage. The rapidity with which capillary action takes place makes it imperative that all free water be removed as soon as possible, especially from all heavy subgraded soils subject to considerable foundation pressure. At least one-half of the serious damage caused by the heavy truck traffic may be rightfully attributed to defective drainage.

Furthermore, the heaving or expansive action of frozen moisture or water in the soil, even though it causes no direct harm, wedges the soil particles apart, and on thawing, the soil not only has no bearing power, but is extremely porous and open, ready to take up additional moisture. It is for this reason that a number of successive thaws and freezes are so destructive. Each succeeding freeze leaves the soil more porous and ready to take up additional water usually abundantly supplied by the next thaw. To eliminate this so far as it is possible, artificial drainage must be installed and until it is, conditions will be increasingly unsatisfactory.

The program for road dragging, oiling, applying tarvia and permanent construction of Highways, should be carefully laid out for the coming year, along the lines pursued during the past three years, the good results of which are now becoming apparent.

We have now in town several different styles of guide posts. About five percent of these are in good condition, and others are at least readable. A standard post set in concrete at all street intersections should be erected with proper signs placed thereon, whenever such an expenditure seems warranted in view of other pressing needs.

Federal	332.20					25.73	357.93
Forest							
Franklin	932.88						932.88
Fremont	80.29						80.29
Fulton	15.95						15.95
Gould	129.60	27.41					157.01
Grand	418.55						418.55
Grant							
Green	502.49	12.00	2.12				516.61
Grove	432.25	6.62					487.16
Hancock	128.80						128.80
Hanscom Ave.	234.70						234.70
Harnden	219.01					14.96	233.97
Harriman Ave.	62.40	5.84					68.24
Harrison							
Hartshorn							
Haven	50.35	9.75	20.53			44.25	137.62
Haverhill	1522.54		36.02				1558.56
High	2.86	20.65	44.64			13.43	90.51
Highland Road							
Highland St.	84.09					46.90	130.99
Hill Crest Road	56.75					31.10	87.85
Hopkins	161.76						161.76
Howard	244.38						245.88
John	147.41	16.87	2.86			21.47	188.61
King	147.24	33.46					182.82
Kingston	199.36	6.25					205.61
Lake View Ave.							
Lewis							
Lincoln	165.67	.57					169.42
Linden	223.11	7.76					230.87
Locust							
Lowell	3871.26					3213.41	7085.73
Main St. North	29.83					235.59	268.61
Main St. South		15.71				9.60	25.31
Manning	62.22	6.63				11.15	80.00

TABLE SHOWING AMOUNT EXPENDED ON STREETS FROM JANUARY 1ST, 1923, UNTIL DECEMBER 31, 1923

Construction	Maintenance	Gutters	Catch Basins	Patching	Drains	Snow and Ice	Special Drain- age Account	Repairs to Equipment	Sidewalks	Clearing Brush	Total
Maple	67.07	2.19							10.61		79.87
Middlesex Ave.	403.62		1.08								404.70
Mill	169.50										169.50
Mineral	176.00	4.66	2.68								183.34
Ninot	210.23	1.76	16.48								228.47
Morgan Park											
Mt. Vernon	238.44	4.96	1.06								244.46
Oak	367.46										367.46
Ordway Terrace											
Orange		* 25.73			4.26						29.99
Parker	29.00										29.00
Park Ave.											
Pearl	289.91	29.78	2.12								321.81
Percy Ave.											
Perkins Ave.	86.11	2.29									88.40
Pierce	67.53	3.31							30.91		101.75
Pine St.											
Pine Ave.											
Pleasant	269.26	5.54	11.68			330.00			79.61		696.09
Pratt	348.57	5.83									354.40
Preseott	790.77	13.49	3.00			3.44					810.70
Prospect	359.22	2.33									361.55
Reading Square											
Ridge Road											
Salem	88.54	8.98			35.38				78.63		211.53

[illegible]

WATER DEPARTMENT

To the Board for Public Works:

Gentlemen: The following is the yearly report of the Water Department.

Office Maintenance:

Pay Roll	\$ 1,206.08	
Telephone	136.89	
Office Supplies	326.59	
Office Repairs	26.11	
Office Improvements	204.00	
Printing	146.17	
Stamps	10.00	
Petty Cash returned to Treasurer	100.00	
Insurance	278.57	
Miscellaneous	205.70	
	<hr/>	\$ 2,640.11
Less Receipts		154.60
		<hr/>
		\$ 2,485.51

Pumping Station Maintenance:

Pay Roll	\$ 3,741.45	
Coal	3,470.38	
Oil, Waste and Packing	93.27	
Phone	67.33	
Light	6.86	
Freight and Express	521.56	
Improvements	300.73	
Tools	100.83	
Pumping Station Repairs	158.03	
Boilers, Repairs	172.12	
Pumps, Repairs	139.89	
Miscellaneous	235.98	
Overtime Pumping Station	297.65	
	<hr/>	\$ 9,306.08
Less Miscellaneous Receipts		203.55
		<hr/>
		\$ 9,102.53

Maintenance of Filters:

Pay Roll	\$ 2,024.93
Electric Power	565.24
Alumina	602.91
Lime	360.00

Freight and Express	96.80	
Repairs, Miscellaneous	162.85	
	<hr/>	\$ 3,812.73
Maintenance of Meters:		
Pay Roll	\$ 1,189.97	
Supplies	254.72	
Repairs at Factory	43.15	
Miscellaneous	20.61	
Freight and Express	21.08	
	<hr/>	\$ 1,529.53
Maintenance of Service Pipes:		
Pay Roll	\$ 670.22	
Tools	39.48	
Fittings	276.17	
Miscellaneous (Labor)	66.48	
Freight and Express	3.14	
	<hr/>	\$ 1,055.49
Less Miscellaneous Receipts	779.44	
	<hr/>	\$ 276.05
Maintenance of Main Pipes:		
Pay Roll	\$ 13.18	
Supplies	33.98	
Freight and Express	1.90	
	<hr/>	\$ 49.06
Hydrants:		
Pay Roll	\$ 478.42	
New Hydrants	501.97	
Tools	55.00	
Fittings	785.09	
Freight and Express	2.40	
Miscellaneous	12.50	
	<hr/>	\$ 1,835.38
Air Compressor Maintenance:		
Electric Power		\$ 1,869.92
Automobile Truck Maintenance:		
Pay Roll	\$ 12.78	
Registration	4.00	
Oil and Gasoline	211.70	
Repairs	279.52	
	<hr/>	\$ 508.00
Shop Maintenance:		
Pay Roll	\$ 120.07	
Municipal Light Board	4.51	
Telephone	16.49	
Repairs	159.58	
Miscellaneous	13.84	
	<hr/>	\$ 313.49

Main Pipe Construction:

Pay Roll	\$ 144.31	
Supplies	879.35	
Freight and Express .....	.76	
Miscellaneous (Labor)	355.59	
	<hr/>	\$ 1,380.01

Service Pipe Construction:

Pay Roll	\$ 1,897.44	
Freight and Express	37.17	
Supplies	1,756.61	
Tools	317.62	
Miscellaneous	702.31	
	<hr/>	\$ 4,711.15
Received for Pipes Laid	\$ 1,243.36	
	<hr/>	\$ 3,467.79

Drinking Fountains:

Repairs		\$ 66.64
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Meters Construction:

Meters	\$ 980.71	
Freight and Express	4.09	
	<hr/>	\$ 984.80

Bonds:

Maturing Bonds Paid	\$ 12,000.00
Bond Interest Paid	3,417.50

Summary of Receipts and Expenditures:**Receipts:**

Cash balance 1922		\$ 6,633.81
Rent of House and Sundries	\$ 203.55	
Fines and Summons	54.60	
Received from Town Treasurer	100.00	
Service Pipe Maintenance	779.44	
Service Pipe Construction	1,243.36	
Meter Rates	32,730.91	
Water for Drinking Fountains	100.00	
Miscellaneous Receipts	59.89	
	<hr/>	41,331.75
		<hr/>
		\$ 47,965.56

Expenditures:

Office Maintenance	\$ 2,640.11
Pumping Station Maintenance	9,306.08
Filter Maintenance	3,812.73
Meter Maintenance	1,529.53
Service Pipe Maintenance	1,055.49
Main Pipe Maintenance	49.06
Bonds Matured	12,000.00

Interest on Bonds	3,417.50	
Air Compressor Maintenance	1,869.92	
Automobile Maintenance	508.00	
Shop Maintenance	313.49	
Main Pipe Construction	1,380.01	
Service Pipe Construction	4,711.15	
Meter Construction	984.80	
Hydrants	1,835.38	
Drinking Fountains	66.64	
	<hr/>	\$ 45,479.89
Balance Cash on hand		2,485.67

Cost of Plant:

Reported past years	\$406,884.11	
Expended in 1923		
Hydrants	\$ 1,835.38	
Service Pipe	4,711.15	
Meters	984.80	
Main Pipes	1,380.01	
	<hr/>	8,911.34
Total		<hr/> \$415,795.45

The interest for the year 1923 on serial bonds amounted to \$3,417.50, as follows:

June 1st, 1923, \$69,000. bonds for six months at 4%	\$1,380.00
June 1st, 1923, \$20,000. bonds at six months at 4½%	450.00
Dec. 1st, 1923, \$58,000. bonds for six months at 4%	1,160.00
Dec. 1st, 1923, \$19,000. bonds for six months at 4½%	427.50

There were \$11,000. in bonds at 4 per cent and a \$1,000. bond at 4½ per cent paid in 1923.

The interest for the year 1924 on serial bonds amounts to \$2,932.50 as follows:

June 1st, 1924, \$58,000. bonds for six months at 4%	\$1,160.00
June 1st, 1924, \$19,000. bonds for six months at 4½%	427.50
Dec. 1st, 1924, \$47,000. bonds for six months at 4%	940.00
Dec. 1st, 1924, \$18,000. bonds for six months at 4½%	405.00

\$ 2,932.50

There are \$11,000. in bonds at 4 per cent and a \$1,000. bond at 4½% payable in 1924.

The Superintendent recommends that \$6,240.00 be raised and appropriated for hydrant rental; that \$100.00 be raised and appropriated for water and drinking fountains.

REGISTRATION REPORT

Amount of bills (metered water) rendered in 1923		\$ 32,365.72
Amount collected and paid Treasurer	\$32,276.17	
Amount uncollected	82.20	
Amount abated	7.35	
		<hr/>
	\$32,365.72	
Amount of bills (metered water) of previous years uncollected		\$ 588.13
Amount of bills of previous years abated and re- charged		221.99
		<hr/>
		\$ 810.12
Amount collected and paid Treasurer	\$ 454.74	
Amount uncollected	0.00	
Amount abated	355.38	
		<hr/>
	\$ 810.12	
Amount of service pipe construction bills ren- dered in 1923		\$ 1,246.42
Amount of bills of previous years uncollected ...		48.78
Amount of bills of previous years abated and re- charged		49.98
		<hr/>
		\$ 1,345.18
Amount collected and paid Treasurer	\$ 1,243.36	
Amount uncollected	101.82	
		<hr/>
	\$ 1,345.18	
Amount of service pipe maintenance bills ren- dered in 1923		\$ 680.51
Amount of bills of previous years uncollected ...		26.40
Amount of bills of previous years abated and re- charged		100.00
		<hr/>
		\$ 806.91
Amount collected and paid Treasurer	\$ 779.44	
Amount uncollected	27.47	
		<hr/>
	\$ 806.91	

FINANCIAL STATISTICS

RECEIPTS

Balance brought forward from 1922 .	
From meter rates	\$32,730.91
Total from consumers	32,730.91
For fountains	100.00
For hydrants	6,060.00
Total from municipal departments ..	
Rents, interest, etc.	318.04
Service pipes	2,022.80

Total

\$ 47,865.56

EXPENDITURES

Water Works Maintenance:	
Total maintenance	\$21,051.05
Interest on bonds	3,417.50
Payment of bonds	12,000.00
	<hr/>
	\$ 36,468.55
Water Works Construction:	
Extension of mains	\$ 1,380.01
Extension of services	4,711.50
Extension of meters	984.80
New supply hydrants	1,835.38
	<hr/>

Total construction

\$ 8,911.34

Balance

\$ 2,485.67

Total

\$ 47,865.56

KINDS AND SIZES OF METERS IN USE

January 1, 1924

MAKE	SIZES						Total
	$\frac{3}{8}$ in.	$\frac{1}{2}$ in.	1 in.	1 $\frac{1}{2}$ in.	2 in.	2 in.	
Pittsburg	1	.....	.....	.....	1	.....	1
Niagara	1	.....	.....	.....	1	.....	2
Gem	5	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	5
Keystone	1	.....	.....	8	.....	.....	9
Union	4	.....	2	.....	1	3	10
King	11	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	11
Thompson	17	.....	1	.....	.....	.....	18
Worthington	25	1	.....	.....	1	.....	27
Columbia	30	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	30
Lambert	41	.....	2	.....	.....	.....	43
Gamon	62	.....	2	.....	.....	.....	64
Neptune	81	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	81
Crown	74	2	2	.....	2	7	87
Hersey	187	4	12	.....	7	2	212
Empire	264	.....	3	.....	.....	.....	267
Nash	970	11	11	.....	5	2	999
Total	1774	18	35	8	15	16	1866

YEARLY RECORD OF PUMPING SERVICE

From Jan. 1, 1923, to Jan. 1, 1924

MONTH	No. Days	Hrs.	Min.	Gallons Pumped	Total Head	Pounds Coal	Gals. to Lbs Coal	Rain- fall
January	31	245	45	7,481,586	219	60,585	129	6.95
February	28	222	30	7,814,901	219	55,205	123	1.67
March	31	256	00	9,170,134	219	57,561	159	2.60
April	30	245	30	9,142,220	219	52,294	175	5.17
May	31	266	15	9,031,450	219	53,384	169	1.56
June	30	320	30	11,005,206	219	61,140	180	2.76
July	31	289	00	10,407,051	219	59,308	178	1.98
August	31	257	15	9,221,248	219	54,544	169	3.17
September	30	265	30	9,344,229	219	52,861	177	.82
October	31	260	00	9,263,944	219	52,008	178	3.63
November	30	252	15	9,066,683	219	52,211	174	4.13
December	31	268	30	9,636,453	219	54,444	177	4.83
Totals	365	3144	00	110,947,105	219	665,545	165	39.30

RAINFALL

The average rainfall for Massachusetts as deduced by the State Department of Health from long continued observation in various parts of the State is 44.59 inches.

As may be seen, by a table in this report showing the amount of rainfall for the years 1900 to 1923 inclusive, the average rainfall at the Reading Pumping Station is 41.44 inches. The rainfall this past year was 39.30, being a deficiency of 5.29 inches compared with the State observations, and a deficiency of 2.14 inches for the pumping station. There was an excess of rainfall in the months of January, April, October, November and December of 7.72 inches and a deficiency in the other months of 9.66 inches, comparing each month with an average rainfall between the years 1900-1923 inclusively.

The greatest rainfall in any one day was on November 24th—2.40 inches.

The elevation of the Reading Pumping Station is approximately 80 feet above sea level.

Month	Normal Rainfall (Inches)	Rainfall in 1923 (Inches)	Excess or Deficiency in 1923 (Inches)
January	3.51	6.95	+ 3.44
February	3.50	1.67	— 1.83
March	3.65	2.60	— 1.05
April	4.19	5.17	+ .98
May	3.13	1.56	— 1.57
June	3.65	2.79	— .86
July	3.64	1.98	— 1.66
August	3.22	3.17	— .05
September	3.46	.82	— 2.64
October	2.73	3.63	+ 1.10
November	3.22	4.13	+ .91
December	3.54	4.83	+ 1.29

TABLE SHOWING THE AMOUNT OF RAIN AND MELTED SNOW
FOR YEAR ENDING DEC. 31, 1923

Day of Month	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December	Day of Month
1...	.47	.12											1
2...	.79	.15							T				2
3...	.02	.05		.01			.03	.65	.02				3
4...			T	.88								.10	4
5...				.69			.05	.08	T			2.10	5
6...	.26	.25	.62			.37	.02				.23	.04	6
7...	.03		.18			1.18		.30			.05		7
8...	1.89			.08		.12	.01	.01	.04		.02		8
9...	.35	.07			.14	.06			T			.02	9
10...	.04		.04									.58	10
11...	.40				.03				T				11
12...	.27	.65	.63		.43			.01	.02				12
13...		.12	.51						.02			.14	13
14...	.23	.02					.01	.17		.22			14
15...	.07			.47	.04	T	.05			.12	.01		15
16...	T		.01				.58		.02		T		16
17...			.53								T		17
18...								.01		.4	T		18
19...			.04						.21				19
20...	.50				T			.01	T			.05	20
21...	.49				.92		T	.35	.05			T	21
22...	.02			.13					.01		.05	.65	22
23...			.03	.11					.54	2.14	.48	.20	23
24...	1.08		.18			.03	.37	.06		.22	2.40	.10	24
25...	.01					T	.20	.93	T		.03	T	25
26...		.12			T	.05					.04		26
27...		.03		.04			.11	.07				.25	27
28...	.03	.09		1.53		.89	.55	.54	.08			.47	28
29...				1.03		.09					.02		29
30...			.01	.02						.42	.80	.13	30
31...													31
Total	6.95	1.67	2.60	5.17	1.56	2.79	1.98	3.17	.82	3.63	4.13	4.83	Tota
T to D	6.95	8.62	11.22	16.39	17.95	20.74	22.72	25.89	26.71	30.34	34.47	39.30	T to D

RAIN FALL AT PUMPING STATION

1900—1923

Year	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Total
1900	5.32	8.69	5.03	2.15	4.60	3.13	1.90	3.17	4.15	3.31	5.05	2.44	48.94
1901	1.33	1.08	5.88	9.59	7.21	1.74	4.65	2.66	3.59	2.76	3.06	8.10	51.65
1902	1.80	6.11	4.69	6.22	1.69	1.98	3.02	3.75	4.01	4.91	0.99	5.60	44.77
1903	3.84	3.16	6.38	4.95	0.48	8.91	3.40	3.42	2.29	3.69	1.33	2.59	44.44
1904	4.42	2.21	2.21	9.90	3.56	2.56	1.88	4.26	5.16	2.02	1.80	2.25	42.23
1905	5.44	1.47	2.92	2.59	1.39	6.11	1.19	3.30	7.87	1.20	2.22	3.72	39.42
1906	2.60	2.53	6.48	2.84	5.14	2.63	5.88	4.18	1.36	2.38	3.31	3.08	42.41
1907	3.97	2.10	2.40	3.21	2.89	3.80	3.58	1.33	7.90	3.36	6.83	3.60	44.97
1908	3.07	4.28	2.72	1.71	4.00	1.58	3.09	4.07	0.86	3.56	1.10	2.66	32.70
1909	4.17	5.33	3.57	3.95	1.97	2.14	3.59	2.75	3.74	1.23	4.06	3.60	40.10
1910	4.54	3.14	1.58	2.32	1.19	4.36	1.98	2.61	2.45	1.48	4.30	1.92	31.87
1911	2.25	2.94	3.12	1.89	0.67	3.43	4.79	3.80	2.94	2.91	4.14	3.57	36.45
1912	2.68	2.42	5.04	4.05	5.73	0.29	6.44	2.02	3.02	1.45	3.10	4.80	41.04
1913	2.48	2.64	4.51	3.76	3.45	0.93	1.68	3.48	3.66	7.56	2.13	3.24	39.52
1914	3.34	3.65	4.09	6.32	2.76	1.44	2.34	2.78	0.23	1.51	2.92	3.69	35.07
1915	5.52	3.54	0.00	2.72	1.68	4.60	8.76	6.66	0.70	2.80	2.93	5.47	45.38
1916	1.22	5.37	3.37	5.14	4.59	5.86	3.13	2.30	3.11	1.01	1.94	2.91	39.95
1917	2.92	2.41	4.18	2.90	4.00	4.78	1.19	3.70	1.46	5.75	1.39	2.65	37.33
1918	3.08	3.02	2.02	4.10	0.85	3.04	2.99	2.81	8.37	1.02	2.24	2.18	36.92
1919	3.24	3.61	4.01	2.46	5.44	0.88	3.22	3.83	5.65	2.63	6.20	1.53	42.70
1920	2.75	6.46	4.21	5.75	3.27	5.24	1.94	2.02	4.27	1.16	4.67	4.82	46.56
1921	2.09	3.43	2.43	5.48	1.86	4.02	9.79	1.96	1.74	1.57	6.50	2.28	43.15
1922	1.77	2.72	4.27	1.37	5.08	11.27	4.88	3.29	3.68	2.73	1.06	3.12	45.24
1923	6.95	1.67	2.60	5.17	1.56	2.79	1.98	3.17	82	3.63	4.13	4.83	39.30
Average	3.51	3.50	3.65	4.19	3.13	3.65	3.64	3.22	3.46	2.73	3.22	3.54	41.44

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS—STATE DEPT. OF HEALTH

Water Analysis—(Parts in 100,000)

No.	Date of Collection	APPEARANCE				Residue on Evaporation	AMMONIA		Chlorine	NITROGEN AS		Oxygen Consumed	Hardness	Iron	Remarks
		Turbidity	Sediment	Color	Free		Albuminoid Total	Ni- trates		Ni- trites					
1922															
166266	Sept. 20	Slight	Considerable	Iron	10.70	.019	.034	.95	.024	.0000		2.6	.300		Filter Gallery
166267	Sept. 20	Slight	None		.90	.0010	.003	.76	.014	.0000		12.0	.240		Filter Weir
167516	Nov. 16	Slight	Considerable	Iron	10.50	.019	.0218	1.14	.016	.0000		2.7	.350		Filter Gallery
167517	Nov. 16	Very slight	None		.25	.20.30	.003	.0105	.92	.006	.0000	10.8	.060		Filter Weir
1923															
168275	Jan. 23	Slight	Considerable	Iron	10.00	.0186	.0182	1.09	.008	.0000		3.1	.260		Filter Gallery
168276	Jan. 23	Very slight	None		.25	.18.00	.0028	.0108	.88	.005	.0002	7.9	.060		Filter Weir
169123	Mch. 21	Slight	Considerable		.90	8.90	.0124	.0132	.79	.013	.0000	2.5	.170		Filter Gallery
169124	Mch. 21	Very slight	None		.30	12.70	.0016	.0060	.75	.005	.0000	8.3	.060		Filter Weir
169793	May 14	Slight	Considerable	1.	.20	9.40	.0132	.0190	.63	.008	.0000	2.2	.110		Filter Gallery
169794	May 14	Very slight	None		.30	16.90	.0012	.0078	.63	.004	.0003	8.0	.055		Filter Weir
170922	July 16	Slight	Considerable		1.10	9.00	.0152	.0230	.97	.008	.0000	1.4	.240		Filter Gallery
170923	July 16	Very slight	None		.30	18.10	.0014	.0084	.76	.004	.0001	7.4	.074		Filter Weir
172233	Sept. 17	Slight	Considerable		.75	8.10	.0116	.0120	.92	.008	.0000	2.3	.172		Filter Weir
172361	Sept. 20	Very slight	None		.66	7.50	.0108	.0105	.92	.014	.0000	2.0	.046		Filter Gallery
172993	Oct. 23	Slight	Considerable		.55	8.20	.0192	.0022	1.03	.010	.0000	2.5	.045		Filter Gallery
192994	Oct. 23	Very slight	None		.12	16.20	.0006	.0044	.90	.006	.0001	7.4	.035		Filter Weir

SUMMARY OF STATISTICS

For the Year Ending December 31, 1923

Reading Water Department

Reading, Middlesex County, Massachusetts

General Statistics

Population by census of 1920: 7424.

Date of construction: 1890 and 1891.

By whom owned: Town of Reading.

Source of supply: Filter gallery and artesian wells.

Mode of supply: (Whether gravity or pumping): Pumping.

Pumping Statistics

Builders of Pumping Machinery: Sullivan Machinery Co.; George F. Blake Manufacturing Co.; and Platt Iron Works.

Description of fuel used:

a. Kind: Coal.

b. Brand of coal: New River.

c. Average price of coal per net ton delivered: \$9.78.

d. Percentage of ash:

e. Wood, price per cord: \$

(3) Coal consumed for the year: 665,545 pounds.

(6) Total pumpage for the year: 110,947,105 gallons, with allowance for slip.

Average static head against which pump work: 219.

Average dynamic head against which pumps work. 240.

Number of gallons pumped per pound of equivalent coal (5) 166.70.

gallons pumped x 8.34 (lbs.) x 100 x dynamic head (240)

Duty equals:

Total fuel consumed.

equals 33, 366,898 including heating.

Cost of Pumping, figured on Pumping Station Expenses including filtration, viz: \$14,780.22.

Per million gallons pumped: 133.22.

Per million gallons raised one foot (dynamic): 56.

DISPOSITION OF BALANCE—Carried to New Account

Net cost of works to date	\$415,795.45
Bonded Debt at date	77,000.00

Statistics of Consumption of Water

Estimated total at date	7600
Estimated population on lines of pipe	7500
Estimated population supplied	7400

Total consumption for the year: 110,947,105 gallons.

Average daily consumption: 303,933 gallons.

Gallons per day to each inhabitant: 3,999 gallons.

Gallons per day to each consumer: 41.07 gallons.

Cost of supplying water, per million gallons figured on total maintenance of Pumping Station and Filter: \$135.03.

Total cost of supplying water, per million gallons, figured on total maintenance, plus interest on bonds: \$329.00.

Statistics Relating to Distribution System Mains

Kind of Pipe: Cast iron.

Sizes: From 6 inches to 12 inches.

Extended: 376 feet during year.

Discontinued: 0 feet during year.

Total now in use: 33.46 miles.

Cost of repair per mile: \$0.00.

Length of pipe less than 4 inches in diameter: 0 miles.

Number of hydrants (public and private) now in use: 208.

Number of stop gates added during the year: 0.

Number of stop gates now in use: 310.

Number of stop gates smaller than 4 inch: 0.

Number of blow-offs: 14.

Range of pressure on mains: 45 lbs. to 90 lbs.

Kind of pipe: Cast iron, galvanized iron, lead and cement lined.

Sizes: $\frac{3}{4}$ to 6 inches.

Extended: 3348.6 feet.

Discontinued: 0 feet.

Total now in use: 28.223 miles.

Number of service taps added during year: 57.

Number now in use: 1916.

Average length of service, 1923: 58.74 feet.

Average cost of service, 1923: \$82.65.

Number of meters added: 65.

Number now in use: 1856.

Percentage of service metered: 98.

Number of motors and elevators added: 0.

Number now in use: 0.

WATER DEPARTMENT

Following is the principal work performed other than the regular repairs, together with recommendations for the ensuing year:

Pumping Station

A new concrete tank for the lower lime house, with a working platform and stairs, and a new bearing support for the mixer have been installed. The walls and floors to the main pump room, the laboratory walls inside and out, and the storehouse and a storehouse roof have been painted. Necessary repairs to the front porch and to the heater to the station house have been made, the former having badly rotted away, and the latter rusted in many places.

It would greatly add to the appearance and convenience of the Station to have a door framed into the coal bunker large enough to allow trucks to back in and dump, thus saving expense and time on trimming coal. A loading machine would also add greatly as a time saver for trimming purposes, and could work in conjunction with the Highway Dept. on loading their trucks with sand and gravel. A new concrete walk is needed from the Station to the store house and gutters on the Pumping Station should be repaired next year.

General Maintenance and Construction

The water mains were extended on Bancroft Ave., from Weston Road, northerly 244 feet, and on Fairview Ave., southwesterly 132 feet to take care of water applications received at the office. Six new hydrants have been set at the following locations: Grove St., south of Spruce Road; Ash St., 200 feet south of Boston & Maine R.R.; Shackford Road, corner of Ash; Union St., west corner at the junction of Middle; Locust St., 200 feet west of Beacon; and Bancroft Ave., corner Weston Road. There have been also six replacements at the following places: Highland St., north of the entrance of Laurel Hill Cemetery and at the southwest junction of Highland and Locust Sts.; Mill St., opposite the Pumping Station; Elliott St., junction of Green; and on Haverhill, between Franklin and Charles. The other hydrants have been inspected and repaired during the year. On account of the age of many of the meters a large number were taken out, cleaned, repaired, and replaced. The same holds true as to the house services where the pipe goes through the foundation wall, and it was found necessary to replace some sixty services at this point. Fifty-seven new services have been constructed during the past year which shows an increase over 1922. The lineal feet of service extensions during the year amounts to 3348.60 feet.

The blow-off line running from Bancroft Ave. main extension is now laid so that this coming year the Stand Pipe can be cleaned inside.

The number of new meters which the Department will need in 1924, will depend on building operations. Approximately \$1,000.00 ought to cover the meters needed as dwellings are ready for them.

The Department is in need of a new meter testing bench. The present one has been in use for 25 years, and the efficiency of a new machine would greatly cut down the labor, which has become quite an item in this work. A six-inch main should be laid in Forest Street between North Main and Pearl Sts., and in Park St., off Auburn to substitute the present $1\frac{1}{4}$ inch main, the latter being too small to feed the twelve houses which it now serves. At the end of this extension a hydrant should be set for fire protection.

The main on Elliott St. should be extended from Green to Washington, and a hydrant set at the junction of Washington St. At the present time 10 houses are now fed by a $1\frac{1}{4}$ inch main on Dudley from Deering to School, and School from Dudley to Middlesex Ave. Further applications for the use of this present main will require a six-inch main extension.

SEWER DEPARTMENT

To the Board of Public Works:

Gentlemen:—The following is the yearly report for the Sewer Department:

Construction and Maintenance.

Balance brought forward	\$ 13,333.28
Receipts to date	12,556.47

Total	\$ 25,889.75
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Expended:

Construction Pay Roll	\$ 126.14
Construction Labor and Materials	2,447.24
Construction Land Damage	4.00
Total	\$ 2,577.38

Maintenance Pay Roll	\$ 801.32
Office Supplies	66.55
Auto Maintenance	195.85
Labor and Materials	659.82
Insurance	103.71
Miscellaneous	90.00

Metropolitan Assessment:

Sinking Fund	\$ 2,193.51
Interest	3,257.90
Cost of Maintenance	4,267.24
Serial Bonds	346.27

\$11,982.17

Total Maint. and Const. Pay Roll ...	\$ 927.46
Total Maint. and Const. Bills	13,632.09

Grand Total	\$ 14,559.55
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Balance	\$ 11,330.20
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House Connection Account.

Balance brought forward	\$ 921.63
Cash receipts to date	3,768.58

Total	\$ 4,690.21
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Expended:

Pay Roll	\$ 1,538.11	
Labor and Supplies	1,563.09	
Oil and Gasoline	29.88	
Freight and Express	10.55	
Refunds	352.88	
	<hr/>	
	\$ 3,494.51	\$ 3,494.51
		<hr/>
Balance		\$ 1,195.70

Principal Work Performed**Construction and Maintenance.**

On account of the applications received, and the necessity of relieving the poor sanitary conditions of overflowing cesspools, the main sewer on Howard Street was extended for six hundred feet, from Sigsbee Avenue to West Street.

Work started on October 17th. Much time was lost because of light rains, which while not heavy enough to damage the ditch, caused delay in construction. The extent of the work comprised the main sewer, underdrain, two manholes and six-inch pipe, laid in gravel so that there is a four-inch clearance at the bells between it and the main sewer, with two pails of No. 2 crushed stone around each joint, insuring a good open drain.

The main, itself, six hundred feet long, is laid at a six-tenths percent grade; each joint carefully packed with jute and made with G. K. compound. The manholes are constructed of white pressed cement brick at stations 300 to 600 respectively. While the street was officially closed, passage through was kept open for the abutters and their respective driveways.

Of the seven houses fronting on the extension, six were connected; of which three connections were laid with crushed stone covering the pipe. The Highway Department steam roller was used to roll the surface of the road after backfilling was done, leaving the street in good condition, considering the main ditch and the six house connections that were put in. The work was completed November 16, 1923.

The following is a list of materials used:

Main Sewer:

- 600 feet, 6" vitrified pipe for underdrain
- 300 feet, 8" vitrified pipe for main sewer
- 300 feet, 6" vitrified pipe for main sewer
- 9, 8" x 5" Y
- 6, 6" x 5" Y
- 15, 5" stoppers
- 2 Cast Iron manhole frames and covers
- 10 Cast Iron manhole steps
- 6 tons No. 2 crushed stone for underdrain
- 830 lbs. of G. K. compound
- 79 feet, 8-strand jute

Mr. John Williams, the contractor, purchased 3000 cement bricks, and 17 bags of cement for manholes, and 55 gallons of kerosene for burner.

House Connections:

300 feet, 5" vitrified pipe
 35 feet, 4" cast iron pipe
 8, $\frac{1}{8}$ bends, 5"
 1, 5 x 5" T
 10 tons of No. 2 crushed stone
 250 lbs. G. K. compound
 42 feet of 8-strand jute

A general inspection at all junction points of the main sewers and main lines has been made. The repairing of leaks in that portion of the system which is under ground water level, has made the leakage substantially less than it was last year. It is noticeable that a general accumulation of sewerage disposal is building up along the lines where only a few houses are connected. This lack of connections is the cause of this deposit, which with greater use would automatically flush and keep clear the sewer lines. This is not, however, a serious condition, but attention will have to be paid to this next year, in that the Department will have to undertake a systematic process of cleaning and flushing. All underdrains appear to be functioning in good order. Approximately twelve new covers will have to replace broken ones now in the manhole frames. The general pounding of truck traffic is the cause of this breakage.

The Superintendent would recommend that any further extensions of mains be made only on streets where a substantial percentage of the property owners apply for connections.

House Connections.

Forty-three house connections have been made during the year with the total length of 2334.70 feet. The number of houses which are now connected with the sewerage system is equivalent to about 35% of the total number of connections available from the present sewer. This is an increase of 9% over last year. Forty-six other connections have been constructed and may at any time be connected as soon as the property owners so desire, and one hundred and seven have been run to either the curb or the side line of the street, by the Town previous to the resurfacing of the highways. There still remains one hundred and eighty-three connections possible for which no applications have been made by the owners of the property. At the present time three streets only are a hundred percent sewered, where it is possible for connections to be made, viz.—Fulton St., Gould St., and Perkins Ave. The Superintendent estimates that the amount of revenue lost to the Town by having 65% not connected is approximately \$5,277.90 annually.

The table following will serve to illustrate the amount of work that has been accomplished to date on various streets where a main sewer has been constructed.

Streets	Possible Connections	Completed Connections	% Connected	No Construc- tion Started	Connections to Street Line	Partially In- stalled to House	Estimated Revenue 100% Connected	Revenue Received 1923
Arlington	10	1	.10	7	2	1	\$116.70	\$2.40
Ash	16	5	.31	11	0	0	248.10	18.30
Berkeley	24	8	.33	15	0	1	244.20	57.90
Brook	2	0	.00	2	0	0	36.00	
Copeland Ave.	6	3	.50	0	1	2	200.40	63.60
Eaton	1	0	.00	1	0	0	9.30	
Fremont	4	2	.50	1	0	1	48.90	29.10
Fulton	1	1	100.00	0	0	0	26.10	
Green	31	13	.42	15	0	3	274.80	78.90
Gould	3	3	100.00	0	0	0	10.20	4.80
Harnden	8	5	.62	0	3	0	136.20	99.60
Haven	38	17	.45	8	12	1	1,478.10	695.40
High	10	1	.10	3	6	0	92.40	3.90
Hill Crest Rd.	6	4	.66	1	1	0	61.50	11.70
Howard	15	8	.53	3	0	4	168.00	58.20
Interceptor	1	0	.00	1	0	0		
John	9	1	.11	8	0	0	59.40	2.40
Kingston	12	5	.41	7	0	0	116.10	38.10
Lincoln	7	4	.57	0	3	0	272.40	195.00
Linden	7	2	.28	3	0	2	98.40	51.30
Lowell	5	3	.60	2	0	0	78.00	66.90
Main	30	16	.55	2	9	3	939.15	658.95
Middle	4	0	.00	4	0	0	38.10	
Middlesex Ave.	16	10	.62	0	3	3	223.70	130.80
Mt. Vernon	7	2	.28	4	0	1	90.60	2.10
Parker	7	1	.14	6	0	0	79.80	
Perkins Ave.	5	5	100.00	0	0	0	83.70	69.90
Pleasant	10	4	.40	6	0	0	130.20	31.80
Pratt	4	3	.75	1	0	0	49.50	33.60
Prescott	39	12	.31	1	17	9	460.80	118.80
Prospect	15	5	.33	10	0	0	191.10	57.60
Salem	18	4	.22	3	10	1	235.20	108.60
Sanborn	12	6	.50	3	0	3	253.80	157.50
Summer Ave.	14	4	.28	9	0	1	256.50	65.70
Union	4	1	.25	2	0	1	55.80	5.70
Village	21	4	.19	16	0	1	249.60	78.00
Washington	23	4	.17	14	5	0	203.70	14.70
Wilson	4	1	.25	3	0	0	46.20	3.60
Woburn	71	15	.21	13	35	8	1,017.60	187.50
	520	183		185	107	46	\$8,480.25	\$3,202.35
	100%	35%		35.9%	20.6%	9.4%		38%

PARK DEPARTMENT

To the Board of Public Works:

Gentlemen:—The following is the yearly report of the Park Department:

General Appropriation	\$ 2,370.00
Special appropriation, new flag pole	500.00

	<hr/>	\$ 2,870.00
General Appropriation		\$ 2,370.00

Expended:

Memorial Park:

Pay Roll, care of Park	\$ 512.70
Pay Roll, Supervised Play	590.00
Bills	110.20
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	\$ 1,212.90

Leach Park:

Bills	\$ 431.15
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Ball Field:

Rent	\$ 85.50
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Common and Main St. Parks:

Pay Roll, care of Parks	\$ 113.20
Bills	115.36
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	\$ 228.56

Summary Expenditures:

Total Pay Roll	1,215.90
Total Bills	656.71
Total Rent	85.50

	<hr/>	\$ 1,958.11
Balance of general appropriation ..		\$ 411.89

Special Appropriation	\$ 500.00
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Expended:

Cost of Flag Pole	431.20
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Balance of special appropriation ..	\$ 68.80

MEMORIAL PARK

This last year, Memorial Park has been of more use to the public than ever before. From January 1, 1923, to the time when the summer instruction began, nothing was done worthy of note except the necessary repairs, of which the rebuilding of the north foundation wall of the Community House, the construction of a substantial bridge over the outlet of the dam, and the cleaning of ditches so as to get rid of the water which lies in the spongy turf until late in the summer, etc., were the most important. After the above work had been attended to, the general care of the grounds was taken up. That portion used by the children during the summer months for their games was constantly kept mowed, raked, and picked up, and also the approaches to the Park on Main and Salem Streets.

The day in which the Park was most used was on July Fourth. The complement of soldiers who participated in the Fourth of July celebration, were rationed there, and in the evening a large bonfire and fireworks were set off. On account of the general amount of rubbish which collects at such a time, the Highway Dept. assisted materially in cleaning up and putting the Park in proper order again.

In August the meadows were cut and burned over. The gate in the dam was closed early in the fall and at this writing, a large area is flooded which in the near future ought to provide a fine opportunity for skating during the real cold weather.

The activities at Memorial Park were again under the supervision and direction of the Reading Woman's Club. In no better way can this be handled, and the Board of Public Works wishes to thank that Club for its untiring efforts in making the season a success.

LEACH, COMMON AND MAIN ST. PARKS

Leach Park, this past year was ploughed, harrowed, and fertilized, and although the turf has hardly started, it is hoped that next year, will see the Park in a much better condition than it has been in the past years. This work was greatly retarded by lack of the necessary rainfall, and considering conditions the outcome is favorable.

It may be said that the Common and Main St. Parks were kept constantly mown and raked up during the year. The Band Stand on the Common was painted and repaired, and a new wooden topmast flag pole, fitted with cross trees and other necessary fittings, was erected to take the place of the one which blew over last year.

Recommendations:

Although large amounts could be spent to advantage in the Park Department, making the same more attractive in appearance and in general use, the heavy demands necessary for more important work in the other Departments makes one realize the imperativeness of asking for the mere necessities for the maintenance and present development of our Parks. With this in view the Superintendent recommends the following:

The Community House at Memorial Park be re-shingled; that \$600.00 be appropriated for trained supervisors during the summer months, and that \$1,400.00 be appropriated for the general care of Memorial, Leach, and Main St. Parks, together with the Common in Reading Square.

The following is a report of the Reading Woman's Club of Playground Activities.

Report of Playground Committee

The fifth season of summer playground work opened July 4th under the direction of the Reading Woman's Club.

Miss Pauline W. Chellis of Newtonville, a graduate of the Boston School of Physical Education, was engaged as Supervisor with Miss Dorothy Allard of Reading as assistant, and Mr. Chester Putnam as evening director. At the close of the first week the necessity of another assistant was evident and Miss Helen Marson of Medford was engaged.

That the work of the playground has increased is shown by the daily attendance averaging one hundred and fifty children daily over ninety last year.

The Playground opened officially on the afternoon of July 4th with an entertainment provided by the Town's Celebration Committee. Ice cream and punch were served and five hundred red balloons were given to the children as they entered the playground. As the little folks marched across the green with their gay balloons floating in the air a wonderful colored picture was made which will long linger in the memory of the thousand or more visitors who witnessed it.

The annual Mothers' Day was again a feature and a large gathering assembled. Mrs. Philip Tirrell, President of the Woman's Club spoke on the necessity of the playground to the community and Miss Joy Higgins of the Boston Community Service gave an inspiring talk on adult recreation. A Lawn Party, Children's Circus, and Surprise Supper were successful features of the summer activities. The outstanding event was the surprise supper provided by the Woman's Club and planned and served by the women of the community. Two hundred and fifty children enjoyed to the full this first open-air supper.

Miss Eva Webb of Pearl Street, Reading, Instructor in Basketry, conducted classes twice a week during the season. The enthusiasm for basketry made these classes so popular it is hoped that both adult and children's classes may be held next year.

Folk Dancing classes were held three afternoons a week on the green at the Charles Street end of the Park. The piano has been kept under one of the apple trees all summer in a box constructed for that purpose. Community singing has been a new feature at the playground this season and all the children on the grounds have enthusiastically joined the groups each time the piano was opened for that purpose.

The Home Economics Committee of the Woman's Club under the able chairmanship of Mrs. J. Clarence Oxley has conducted a sewing class during the entire season. This class proved so successful that the committee plans to extend the work another year.

Miss Julia Spinney and Mrs. Samuel Rounds kept the playground supplied with interesting story tellers.

Mrs. Arthur A. Libby was in charge of the equipment and present plans for a community made "Giant Stride" and permanent horizontal bars. Owing to a shortage of funds the committee was unable to carry out these plans this summer.

An interesting record of the guests and visitors at the Playground is kept by means of the Playground Register, a book presented to the Playground for that purpose. The names of eminent statesmen from Massachusetts are already inscribed in the register as well as the names of visitors from Maine to California.

On August 29th the playground closed with the Children's Circus. This event was planned and carried through by the children and supervisor and witnessed by fully five hundred highly entertained and amused spectators. On this day six Memorial Park monograms were given to deserving children to be worn on sweaters as a symbol of good sportsmanship at the Park. It is planned to make these monograms a yearly feature of rewards.

The Playground and Recreation Association of America appealed to Reading Playground for statistics concerning the work here. This request was complied with and in the March issue of the magazine "The Playground" our report appears among those of forty-one Massachusetts towns and cities having municipal playgrounds. Reading is one of seven towns having a population of seven thousand and maintaining a playground.

The purpose in training children and young people in the right use of leisure is not merely to fill up idle hours but to create an active, energetic, happy citizenship. This the Playground Committee is striving to do for the children of Reading.

MARY F. DANIEL,

Chairman of Playground Committee.

HELEN PARKER TIRRELL,

President Reading Woman's Club.

REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS

To the Board of Public Works.

Gentlemen:—The following is the yearly report of the executive office:

Appropriation		\$ 4,512.50
Salary of Supt. and Clerks	\$ 3,681.40	
Bills	785.87	
Total		<u>4,467.33</u>
Balance		\$ 45.17

The following tables show the expenditures made this past year in all departments, the pay roll of each and the entire expenditures of the Board of Public Works:

STATEMENT OF BILLS PAID JANUARY 1—DECEMBER 31, 1923

Company	B. of P. W.	Highway	Water	Sewer	Park	Total
Abbott and Mcay	\$ 44.03	\$ 23.49				\$ 67.52
Adams Compan		\$	5.20			5.20
Alden Speare's on, Co., The		3,301.90				3,301.90
American City, Tr	2.65					2.65
American Flag Po. Co.					\$ 431.20	431.20
American Oil & Gasoline Co.		16.81	1.40	\$ 1.40		19.61
American Railway Express Co.		7.04	21.21			28.25
Austin, O. W.			13.55			13.55
Autocar Sales & Service'o.		876.58				876.58
Amstaco Inc.			2.45			2.45
Atkinson, Co., G. H.			6.75			6.75
Bancroft, Wendell, & Co.		227.37	39.59	2.16		269.12
Bangs Fixture Co.			65.00			65.00
Banker & Tradesman			7.00			7.00
Barbour, F. A.		1,500.00				1,500.00
Barber Asphalt Co.		420.00				420.00
Barry, F. W., Beale Co.			10.97			10.97
Barrett Co., The		13,039.12				13,039.12
Belcher, Geo. F., Machine Co.			.49			.49
Belliveau, Florence			1.28	.49		1.77
Berry, C. A.					113.20	113.20
Bessom, F. A.				1.50		1.50
Berger, C. L. & Sons	23.00		56.90			79.90
Berger Mfg. Co., The		565.38				565.38

Company	B. of P. W.	Highway	Water	Sewer	Park	Total
Bingham & Taylor			87.61			87.61
Blackbird Pen Co.			1.75			1.75
Bobbs-Merrill Co., The	5.00					5.00
Boston & Maine R.R.		67.48	603.99			671.47
Boston Nickel Plating Co.			1.63			1.63
Braman, Dow & Co.		6.05	437.57			443.62
Brown, J. W.			5.00			5.00
Buffalo Meter Co.			2.44			2.44
Buffalo Springfield Roller Co., The		65.38				65.38
Burns, W. A.			4.75			4.75
Burroughs Adding Machine Co.	200.00		182.95			382.95
Butters, Frank		15.55	3.38		13.75	32.68
Caldwell, Geo. A.			18.36			18.36
Cameron, J. J.		3.50				3.50
Carpenter, E. A.	92.00	3.96				95.96
Castner, Curran & Bullitt, Inc.		415.00	2,973.19			3,388.19
Central Garage		1.20				1.20
Century Sign Co.		59.00				59.00
Chadwick, Boston Lead Co.			64.85			64.85
Chandler & Farquhar Co.		7.57	39.62		21.00	68.19
Charles, M. F.			17.55			17.55
Chase's Auto Express				.50		.50
Clapp & Leach			.50	1.60		2.10
Clapp, R. D.					3.75	3.75
Clark, W. E. & Co.		147.27				147.27

Company	B. of P. W.	Highway	Water	Sewer	Park	Total
Cohen, Sydney S.	7.21					7.21
Corey Mfg. Co.		7.50				7.50
Crafts, Clinton W.	9.60					9.60
Creditors' Nat'l Clearing House						
Crowe, E. J.			32.11	1.50		33.61
Cummings' Express Co.		1.40				1.40
Curry Bros. Oil Co.		52.10	75.20	18.00		145.30
Currell, E. B., & Son		97.38				97.38
Cutter Wood Supply Co.	77.85	9.84	202.66			290.35
Dallman, H. I.		135.09	137.64			272.73
Daniel, McPherson		42.29				42.29
Davis & Abbott	1.00					1.00
Davis, Geo. W., & Co.		46.00				46.00
Dennison, W. S., Mfg. Co.		24.55	5.80	29.05		59.40
Dexter Bros. Co.	.26		6.31			6.57
Dickinson, L. W., & Sons Co.			77.12			77.12
Dodge Mfg. Co.		22.70	8.25			30.95
Eagle Oil & Supply Co.		10.86				10.86
Eastern Tractors Co.						
Easy Mfg. Co., The			352.19	23.28		375.47
Elliott Co., The		2,152.27				2,152.27
Fife, T. C.			81.22			81.22
Fire & Water Engineering, Inc.			11.90		1.50	11.90
Fonda Lime Kilns		3.08	244.82			249.40
Francis Bros.			4.00			4.00
			360.00			360.00
	.85	65.85	4.85			71.55

Company	B. of P. W.	Highway	Water	Sewer	Park	Total
Franklin Tire Chain Co.			44.37			44.37
Froffen, Frederick		254.00	27.00	211.20		492.20
Gamon Meter Co.			426.88			426.88
General Crushed Stone Co., The		2,581.76				2,581.76
Graff-Underwood Co.			2.06			2.06
Gifford Supply Co.		18.00				18.00
Good Roads Machinery Co., The		598.60				598.60
Gordon, A. D.		18.00				18.00
Griffin, James J.			2.20			2.20
Hart Packing Co.			3.68			3.68
Hersey Mfg. Co.			71.22			71.22
Hodsdon Bros.	2.75	55.07	7.20		75.00	140.02
Hodge Boiler Works, The		1.81				1.81
Hoffman, C. L.		1,086.59				1,086.59
Partridge, Horace, Co., The					24.94	24.94
Hunt, H. W., Co.		41.67	294.09		25.81	361.57
Jaquith, Cora J.	11.20					11.20
Jenkins Bros.			6.40			6.40
John St. Garage		3.70				3.70
Kenney's Service Station		54.86	3.00			57.86
Knowles, Mrs. Emma S.		256.25				256.25
Lanza, Frank		200.00				200.00
Land Damage				4.00		4.00
LeFave, J. A.		59.25				59.25
Library Bureau			9.98			9.98

Total Real Estate	Total Personal	Tax on any other property	B. of P. W.	Highway	Water	Sewer	Park	Total
Jameson, Alex.				544.40	34.10	34.00		612.50
Jameson & Van Stone Co., The				10.20	1,607.10	151.41		1,768.71
Makepeace, B. L.		.35		3.00	1.74	36.85		41.94
Manville, Inc., John					28.66			28.66
Maxwell, Jr., J. M., & Son					36.81			36.81
McArdle, H. B.					18.60			18.60
Meekins, E. A.							55.75	55.75
Merrimac Chemical Co.					602.91			602.91
Metcalf, E. C.				31.90				31.90
Miller, D. O.					8.60			8.60
Mueller H., Mfg. Co.					92.64			92.64
Municipal Light Board				268.52	2,447.54			2,716.06
Murphy, James A.					2.50			2.50
Murphy Bros.				359.79	1,110.93	74.03		1544.75
Narcus, Samuel					5.45			5.45
National Meter Co.					568.65			568.65
Neptune Meter Co.					17.41			17.41
New England Coal & Coke Co.					497.19			497.19
New England Fire Appliance Co.						7.70		7.70
New England Road Machinery Co.				130.55				130.55
New England Tel. & Tel. Co.		104.30		60.86	220.71			385.87
New England Towel Supply Co.					9.60			9.60
Noble, F. L.				47.18	4.00			51.18
Old Corner Book Store, The		2.50						2.50
Ordway, O. O.				27.10		51.15		78.25

Company	B. of P. W.	Highway	Water	Sewer	Park	Total
Perkins, Dana F.		83.00				83.00
Perkins, George W.		20.00				20.00
Perry, John W.			4.00			4.00
Pittsburgh Meter Company			27.44			27.44
Polygon Products Co.			.64			.64
Prentiss & Parker	12.50		7.50			20.00
Puritan Iron Works		55.30		91.25		146.55
Randall, E. E.					50.00	50.00
Reading Garage & Service Station			1.57			1.57
Reading Motor Co.		628.06	186.17	2.00		814.23
Reading Rubber Mfg. Co.						2.00
Reading Tire Shop	15.25	328.10	40.15			383.50
Reading, Town of			15,696.07	10,168.63		25,864.70
Refunds				352.88		352.88
Red Hed Mfg. Co.			231.29			231.29
Registry of Motor Vehicles	12.00	12.00	6.00	2.00		32.00
Reliance Ribbon & Carbon Co., The			4.50			4.50
Rensselaer Valve Co.			1,139.93			1,139.93
Richards & Co.			52.02			52.02
Sanborn Map Co.			29.00			29.00
Staman, P. J.		9.70	.75	4.50		14.95
Summit Chemical Co.		15.00				15.00
T. W.			33.10			33.10
W. F.		51.12	71.64		11.03	608.96
Wing		2,448.50		475.17		2,448.50

Company	B. of P. W.	Highway	Water	Sewer	Park	Total
Bed Tack Co.			2.25			2.25
Spencer, S. M., Mfg. Co.	.77		8.16			8.93
Standard Oil Co. of N. Y.		1,129.31	186.40	141.15		1,456.86
Stearns, H. L., Desk Co.	3.93					3.93
Stembridge, S. R.		771.74	28.00			799.74
Stillman Carmichael Co.			4.95			4.95
Sumner & Dunbar			102.60	16.00		118.60
Sutherland, P., & Co.			40.10			40.10
Sweetser, Mrs. Delia E.					85.50	85.50
Sweetser, P. N.		885.02	220.73	572.42	329.53	2,007.70
Texas Co., The		331.97				331.97
Groom, Thomas, & Co.			2.87			2.87
Thomson Meter Co.			117.84			117.84
Thorp & Martin Co.	23.42		8.28			31.70
Twombly W. E. & J. F.	85.25	125.45	156.17	23.75		390.62
Underhay Oil Co.		82.08				82.08
Underwood Typewriter Co.			12.54			12.54
Union Water Meter Co.			73.75			73.75
United States Post Office	.75		223.05			223.80
Wakefield, Town of			5.64			5.64
Waldo Bros., & Bond Co.			65.41	119.69		434.96
F. Wallace		249.86				1.65
Ware Coupling & Nipple Co.		1.65				1.65
Water Dept. Cash			61.74			61.74
Water Works Equipment Co.			10.00			10.00
			55.00			55.00

Company	B. of P. W.	Highway	Water	Sewer	Park	Total
Webb, James			6.00			6.00
Western School of Estimating and Plan Reading	10.00					10.00
Weston & Sampson			90.80			90.80
Willis, W. H.		12.65				12.65
White's Express			1.00			1.00
Williams, John		950.00		2963.28		3,913.28
Woburn Machine Co.			6.79			6.79
Worthington Pump Machinery Co.			45.50			45.50
Yawman & Erbe Mfg. Co.	37.45	6.30	11.63	5.95		61.33
Zanni & Co.		3,378.00	40.00		44.65	3,462.65
Total	785.87	41,758.23	33,583.39	15,588.49	1,286.61	93,002.59
Pay Rolls	3,681.46	18,954.21	11,796.50	2,465.57	1,102.70	38,000.44
Grand Total	\$4,467.33	\$60,712.44	\$45,379.89	\$18,054.06	\$2,389.31	\$131,003.03

In closing this report the Superintendent wishes to express his appreciation of the co-operation and interest of all those in any way associated with him in carrying on his work, and to acknowledge the helpful suggestions and assistance he has received from other Department Heads in the Town.

HARRY B. COLLINS, Supt.,
Board of Public Works.

REPORT OF BOARD OF ASSESSORS, 1923

To the Citizens of Reading:

We herewith submit our report on work under our jurisdiction during 1923.

Valuation of Real Estate:

Buildings, excluding land	\$ 6,376,405.00
Land, excluding buildings.....	2,709,650.00
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Total Real Estate	\$ 9,086,055.00
Personal Estate, excluding resident bank stock	\$ 1,262,948.00
Resident bank stock.....	31,900.00
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Total Personal Estate	\$ 1,294,848.00
Total Real and Personal Estate assessed April 1, 1923.....	\$10,380,903.00
Building increase over 1922.....	376,815.00
Land increase over 1922.....	134,155.00
Personal increase over 1922.....	18,252.00
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Total gain on Personal and Real Estate	\$ 529,222.00
Tax on Real Estate	\$ 293,483.49
Tax on Personal Estate.....	41,826.82
Tax on Polls.....	11,875.00
Tax on Real Estate for moth.....	1,282.00
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Total Tax April 1, 1923	\$ 348,467.31
Personal Estate assessed December, 1923.....	\$ 5,600.00
Real Estate assessed December, 1923.....	23,780.00
Polls, 15 at \$5.00	75.00
Tax assessed as supplementary on Real Estate, Dec., 1923..	768.13
Tax assessed as supplementary on Personal Estate, December, 1923	180.90
Total Personal Estate, 1923.....	1,300,448.00
Total Real Estate, 1923.....	9,109,835.00
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Total Real and Personal Estate, 1923	\$10,410,283.00

State Tax, 1923.....	\$ 20,520.00
State Highway Tax, 1923.....	2,318.99
Fire Prevention Tax, 1923.....	99.02
Municipal Lighting Tax, 1923.....	39.17
County Tax, 1923	12,627.83
Metropolitan Sewer Tax, 1923.....	10,064.92
War Bonus Tax, 2375 at \$3.00	7,125.00

Total State and County Tax.....	\$ 52,794.93
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Total 1922	52,072.15
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Increase over 1922	\$ 722.78
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Balance from commitment for Town purposes.....	\$ 283,234.80
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Estimated receipts	78,313.23
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Total	\$ 361,548.03
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Overlay for 1923	5,577.79
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Amount appropriated for Town purposes.....	\$ 367,125.82
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Tax Rate for 1923, \$32.30 per M.

Number of persons assessed on property April, 1923.....	2,721
Number assessed for poll only.....	1,004
Number assessed in December.....	31
Additional polls assessed in December.....	15
Total assessed on property in 1923.....	2,752
Total assessed on polls only in 1923.....	1,019
Total number separate assessments.....	3,771
Polls assessed in 1923.....	2,390
Polls assessed in 1922.....	2,430
Decrease in polls	40
Number of horses	125
Number of cows	285
Number of neat cattle	34
Number of swine	35
Number of fowl	14,305
Number of dwellings	1,949
Number of dwellings, new	30
Number of acres of land.....	5,751
Population of 1920	7,424

Assessors' Report on the Survey of Land Under the Block System

We have now completed 56 plans which contain 2703 separate plans.

The financial report is as follows:

Balance from 1922	\$ 3.19
Appropriated 1923	250.00
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	\$253.19

Expended:

Davis & Abbott, two new plans.....	\$168.78
Davis & Abbott, bringing plans up to date	50.75
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	219.53
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Balance	\$ 33.56

We would advise that the sum of two hundred and fifty dollars (\$250.00) be appropriated the coming year that the work of the Block System be continued.

ALVAH W. CLARK,

J. FRED RICHARDSON,

EDWARD B. EAMES,

Board of Assessors.

REPORT OF CHIEF OF POLICE

To the Honorable Board of Selectmen:

Gentlemen—I herewith submit to your Honorable Board the report of the Police Department for the year ending December 31, 1923:

Arrests for Year 1923

Total number of arrests.....	264
Males	256
Females	8
Residents	80
Non-residents	184
American born	231
Foreign born	33
Adults	237
Minors	27

Causes of Arrests

Assaults	9
Larceny	10
Drunkenness	122
Keeping and exposing liquor for sale.....	4
Capais	4
Tramps	1
Arrests for out town officers.....	5
Bastardy	2
Trespassing	1
Insane	1
Non support	6
Gaming	4
Manslaughter	3
Disturbing Peace	1
Breaking and entering	1
Driving under influence of liquor.....	45
Violating automobile laws.....	26
Not having license to drive.....	9
Not having registration to drive.....	2
Driving away after causing injury to person.....	2
Delinquent children	3
Unnatural act	1
Idle, disorderly	1

Disposition of Cases in Court

Fined	117
Released	19
Turned over to out town officers.....	14
Placed on file	32
Probation	4
Cases continued	2
State Hospital, Danvers.....	4
Appealed	7
State Hospital, Tewksbury	6
Held for Grand Jury.....	2
Discharged	11
Turned over to parents.....	7
House of Correction	5
House of Correction, suspended	30
Default	1
State Farm	1
Lyman School for Boys.....	1
Lancaster School for Girls.....	1
Total	264

Amount of Fines Imposed by the Court

40 at \$ 5.00 each	\$ 200.00
40 at \$ 10.00 each	400.00
8 at \$ 15.00 each	120.00
4 at \$ 20.00 each	80.00
8 at \$ 25.00 each	200.00
12 at \$ 50.00 each	600.00
3 at \$ 75.00 each	150.00
2 at \$100.00 each	200.00
Total	\$1,950.00

Miscellaneous

Cases investigated	140
Disturbances quelled	5
Buildings found open and secured	80
Children lost and taken home.....	14
Dead bodies taken care of.....	5
Windows found unlocked.....	4
Dogs killed	17
Wires found down and reported.....	6
Accidents reported and investigated.....	137
Lanterns in dangerous places.....	5
Defective sidewalks and streets reported.....	5
Search warrants served	5

Electric lights out and reported.....	7
Residences temporarily vacated and special police protection requested	13
Property reported stolen.....	\$3,100.00
Property recovered	2,093.00
Goods found outside stores and brought to the station and returned to owners, valued.....	175.00
Property damage and restitution made.....	125.00
Horses shot	2

ROSTER

Chief

Jeremiah Cullinane

Patrolmen

Oscar H. Low
William F. O'Brien
Timothy J. Cullinane

Francis T. Slack
Patrick J. Long
Daniel T. Scanlon

Frank R. Fisher

Specials

William H. Manning
Charles H. Melendy
Frank F. Strout

William P. Pierpont
Morton C. Skidmore
James C. Nichols

Conclusion

I desire at this time to thank the Honorable Board of Selectmen, the Judges and Clerks of our Court, our Local Press and all others who assisted in any way in promoting the welfare of this department, also all members of the force for what they have done.

Respectfully yours,

JEREMIAH CULLINANE, Chief of Police.

Reading, December 31, 1923.

REPORT OF CHIEF OF FIRE DEPARTMENT

To the Honorable Board of Selectmen:

Gentlemen:—The annual report of the Chief of the Fire Department is herewith submitted, giving the record of fires that have occurred during the year ending December 31, 1923, together with such information as I think may be of interest to the Town.

Finances

Our financial transactions are all embodied in the report of the Town Accountant to which we would respectfully refer you for any information you may desire in that line.

Manual Force

The Department consists of five permanent men (including its Chief) and twenty-five call men. On April 16th the department lost by death its Superintendent of Fire Alarm, Mr. L. Thomas Eames, who was also the oldest member in the department having served as a call fireman for over fifty years.

IN MEMORY OF

L. THOMAS EAMES

OVER FIFTY YEARS A FIREMAN

Apparatus and Equipment

The department has four pieces of motor apparatus, three at the Central Fire Station as follow: one Knox triple combination of 600 gallon per minute capacity, purchased in 1913; one Robinson double tank combination, purchased in 1916; and one Robinson combination service ladder truck, purchased in 1916. At Hose No. 2 station on Woburn st. there is a Ford hose truck. All of the machines are in good working order now excepting the fire pump on the triple combination which leaks quite badly and should be repaired. The tires on Combination B have been in service four years and although they show very little wear I think that for the safety of the machine and my men that they should be replaced. This machine should be painted this year.

We have 6300 feet of 2½ inch hose purchased in various amounts over a period of twenty-three years and as 3800 feet is in use we do not have enough spare hose for a complete change while wet hose is drying and are obliged to load wet hose which is very poor practice because hose loaded in this manner soon mildews and the cotton jacket will then rot and soon become unfit for service.

Recommendations

I recommend the purchase of 1000 feet of 2½ inch hose, that the tires be replaced on Combination B, and that this machine be painted this year. On account of so many installations of oil burning equipment I would recommend the purchase of three foamite extinguishers which are especially adapted for this kind of fire.

Five Prevention

I have issued 642 permits for fires out of doors, 42 permits for use of fuel oil, 36 permits for installation of oil burning equipment, 7 permits for the sale of fireworks, 2 permits for blasting. I have made regular inspections of public garages and mercantile buildings.

There have been over 60 installations of oil burning equipment in town this year. Most of these are of an approved type and have the necessary safety attachments on them but there are others that are not approved because they lack these safety attachments and for this reason constitute a fire hazard. I have taken the matter of unapproved devices up with the State Fire Marshal's office and have been unable to obtain a definite answer from them. No doubt the matter will straighten itself out, although I fear we will have some bad fires from this source.

Record of Alarms

	Bell	Still	Total
January	3	2	5
February	5	3	8
March	2	5	7
April	5	15	20
May	1	8	9
June	3	2	5
July	4	3	7
August	3	3	6
September	4	6	10
October	13	29	42
November	6	11	17
December	2	4	6
	—	—	—
	51	91	142

Number of miles traveled	887.6
Number of feet 2½ inch hose laid	19,450
Number of feet 1½ inch hose laid	1,850
Number of feet chemical hose used	3,000
Number of feet ladders raised	652
Number of gallons chemical used	1,742
Number of covers spread	7
Number of gallons of gasoline used	531
Number of gallons oil used	32
Value of property in danger	\$388,675.00
Insurance thereon	349,300.00
Loss thereto	21,737.00
Insurance paid	16,287.00
Uninsured loss	5,450.00

Conclusion

In conclusion, I wish to extend to your Honorable Board, to the Town Accountant, Treasurer and the Finance Committee my thanks for the courtesies and co-operation I have received during the year. I wish to compliment the officers and members of the department on the prompt and efficient manner in which they have performed their duties. I also wish to express my thanks to the Eastern Massachusetts Street Railway Company for the use of current, to the Chief of Police for services rendered by his department at fires and to the employees of the New England Telephone and Telegraph Company for the prompt and efficient service rendered in receiving alarms by telephone.

ORVILLE O. ORDWAY, Chief of Fire Department.

REPORT OF SUPERINTENDENT OF FIRE ALARM

To the Board of Fire Engineers:

Gentlemen—The report of the Superintendent of Fire Alarm is as follows:

The system is in good condition. Few repairs were necessary this year and lightning caused no trouble.

Seven Gamewell non-interfering boxes were located as follows:

- Box 113 Woburn St. and Bancroft Ave.
- 115 Woburn and High Sts.
- 12 Central Fire Station.
- 242 Summer Ave. and Woodbine St.
- 392 No. Main and Mill Sts.
- 414 Green and Beech Sts.
- 442 Orange and Pierce Sts.

Box 64 was changed to 642 and located at Vine St. and Vale Road.

Box 611 has been placed in The Home For Aged Women, Linden St.

Box 223 was changed to the outside of the Center School.

New break wheels were placed in boxes 122, 17 and 25. New contacts in boxes 122, 17, 25 and 6.

The line on Salem Street has been rebuilt from John Street to Bay State Road and new wire run from John Street to Belmont Street.

The line to the Pumping Station from Main Street which crossed private land has been replaced with a new line on Town poles on Mill St.

The whistle valve must be repaired the coming year.

Some new wire should be run on Charles, Walnut and West Streets.

I believe that an underground cable from the Central Fire Station to the Hose 2 House on Woburn Street should receive your consideration for the near future. The efficiency and saving in maintainance would offset the first cost in a few years. The ducts of the Telephone Company could be used at no expense to the Town.

The system consists of thirty (30) miles of overhead construction in five circuits.

150 Cells of storage battery.

1 Stevens 5 circuit repeater with necessary instrument boards.

37 Stevens fire alarm boxes.

27 Gamewell fire alarm boxes.

1 Gamewell box for still alarms.

1 United States box in reserve.

1 Gamewell transmitter with 68 wheels.

- 2 Stevens tower bell strikers.
- 1 Stevens tower bell striker in reserve.
- 1 12 in. Crosby chime whistle.
- 1 Stevens whistle blowing machine.
- 2 Gamewell tape punching registers.
- 2 14 inch gongs.
- 1 12 inch gong.
- 2 8 inch gongs.
- 11 6 inch tappers.
- 1 Testing station on circuits 3 and 4 at Hose 2 House.

Recommendations

That fire alarm boxes be placed at the following locations:

Pleasant and Eaton Sts.

Near the corner of Prescott and Pratt Sts.

Near the corner of Howard St. and Hill Crest Road.

On Forest St., west of Main St.

That the fire alarm boxes be painted the coming year.

That new break wheels and contacts be installed in boxes 15, 26, 28, 33, 35, 42, 44 and 51.

That a bell be placed on the Central Fire Station using the Stevens striker not now in use. This would be a great aid in notifying the call men if the whistle should fail to sound an alarm.

In conclusion, I wish to thank the Board of Fire Engineers and the Chief of the Fire Department for their co-operation. Thanks are due the Electric Light Department and the New England Telephone and Telegraph Co. for their assistance in changing construction; also to the Eastern Massachusetts Street Railway Company for charging current for the storage battery.

Respectfully submitted,

HUGH L. EAMES, Superintendent of Fire Alarm.

READING FIRE ALARM

Telephone Reading 0430

- 112 Woburn and Sanborn
- 113 Woburn and Bancroft Ave.
- 114 Mt. Vernon, Chute and School.
- 115 Woburn and High
- 12 Central Fire Station
- 121 Main and Haven
- 122 Haven and Gould
- 13 Ash and Avon
- 14 Oak and Hill Crest Road
- 15 Summer Ave. and Walnut

- 16 So. Main and South
- 17 Prescott near Arlington
- 18 Minot and Park Ave.
- 19 Walnut and Curtis
- 21 Summer Ave. and Temple
- 212 West and Howard
- 221 Union Street School (private)
- 223 Center School
- 224 High School (private)
- 225 Highland School (private)
- 226 Lowell Street School
- 227 Prospect Street School
- 228 Chestnut Hill School
- 23 Woburn and Temple
- 231 West beyond Willow
- 24 Mineral and Hancock
- 242 Summer Ave. and Woodbine
- 25 Prospect near King
- 26 Hose 2 House, Woburn St.
- 27 Summer Ave. near Prescott
- 28 West south of Oak
- 29 West and King
- 31 Lowell beyond Grove
- 32 Franklin near Grove
- 33 Lowell and Grand
- 34 Grove and Forest
- 35 No. Main and Locust
- 36 No. Main and Ridge Rd.
- 37 No. Main front of No. 409
- 38 No. Main and Forest
- 39 No. Main and Franklin
- 392 No. Main and Mill
- 41 Village and Green
- 412 Boston Stove Foundry, Willow Rd.
- 414 Green and Beech
- 42 Haven and John
- 43 Salem and John
- 44 Salem and Pearl
- 442 Orange and Pierce
- 45 Salem and Belmont
- 46 Charles and Pearl
- 47 Charles and Haverhill
- 48 Bay State Road near Salem
- 51 Main, Ash and Washington
- 53 So. Main north of Cross
- 55 Reading Rubber Mills

- 6 C. H. Bangs Co., Prescott St. (private)
- 61 Lowell near Sanborn
- 611 Home for Aged Women, Linden St. (private)
- 612 Bancroft Ave. and Locust
- 62 Spare box
- 63 Hanscom Ave. north of Weston Ave.
- 642 Vine and Vale Rd.
- 65 Middlesex and Bancroft Aves.
- 67 Middlesex Ave. and High
- 8 Out of Town

Special Signals

- 1 Test at 11.45 A. M. and 5.45 P. M.
- 2 Recall.
- 22 No school signal.
- 3 Followed by a box number, Second Alarm.
- 3 Followed in one minute by 3, Boy Scout call.
- 4 Police call.

REPORT OF FOREST WARDEN

To the Honorable Board of Selectmen:

Gentlemen:—I herewith submit the annual report of the Forest Warden for the year ending December 31, 1923.

The financial transactions of this department are embodied in the report of the Town Accountant to which I refer you for any information along that line.

The equipment of this department consists of a Ford truck, 18 2½-gallon extinguishers, 12 8-quart cans and pumps, 1 5-gallon can and pump, brooms, shovels and minor equipment.

In the Spring of this year I posted all wood lots and road-sides with fire warnings. I have investigated all fires and sent reports of them to the State Fire Warden.

I would recommend the purchase of 500 feet of 1½ inch hose for the use of this department as my experience with the fires we had in and around Birch Meadow showed me that this is a very effective means with which to fight brush fires.

Number of permits for fires out of doors	268
Number of calls for grass and brush fires	70
Number of calls from Look-out Station	12

I have appointed the following deputies:

Henry M. Donegan, Federal Street.

Hugh L. Eames, Central Fire Station.

John J. O'Brien, Central Fire Station.

In conclusion, I wish to thank all who have assisted this department in any way during the past year.

ORVILLE O. ORDWAY, Forest Warden.

REPORT OF TREE WARDEN

To the Board of Selectmen:

Gentlemen:—

The work in the Tree Warden Department the past year has consisted of trimming and repairing the trees, also removing the trees that had outlived their usefulness as shade trees.

I purchased and planted eighty trees on the roadside in different sections of the town.

The past year being such a very dry season was very hard on the young trees and they required considerable mulching. This work required the use of a truck and was considerable expense.

The trees in some sections also require tree protectors, and I intend to supply them as far as possible.

With the increase in cost of young trees, wages and material, I would recommend the same appropriation as last year—fifteen hundred dollars.

Respectfully submitted,

HENRY M. DONEGAN, Tree Warden.

REPORT OF INSPECTOR OF WIRES

To the Board of Selectmen:

Gentlemen:—I respectfully submit herewith my report as Inspector of Wires for the year ending Dec. 31, 1923.

Number of new buildings wired	50
Number of old buildings wired	71
Number of buildings re-wired or in which additional wiring has been installed	124
Number of inspection notices received	255
Number of inspections made	287
Number of lamp sockets and receptacles connected to new wiring ..	2358
Number of electric ranges connected	65
Number of electric heaters connected	29
Number of electric motors connected	32
Horse power of motors connected	130

The new buildings wired were forty dwellings, seven garages, three store buildings and one church.

The "National Electrical Code," which contains the regulations of the National Board of Fire Underwriters for electric wiring and apparatus, has been revised during the year.

Some of the important changes are as follows:

The neutral conductor on three wire circuits and the grounded conductor on two wire circuits must have an outer covering of white or natural gray color when rubber covered wire is used.

Owing to the greatly increased use of electrical appliances of the lamp socket type, the 10 ampere fuse previously allowed on branch lighting circuits has frequently been too small to carry many of the appliances in general use.

The new regulations permit the use of a 15 ampere fuse on branch lighting circuits of No. 14 wire. Fuses of different capacities are to have special distinguishing marks so that it will be easier to select the proper fuse for the circuit.

The number of outlets on a two wire branch circuit of No. 14 wire is limited to 12.

Branch cut-outs and fuses are required to be mounted in approved cut-out boxes or cabinets when installed in damp places, such as basements.

The provisions of the 1923 edition of the "National Electrical Code" will be in force in Reading on and after February first, 1924.

Poles and Overhead Wires

During the year the abandoned pole and wire lines of the Eastern Massachusetts Street Railway Company on Salem Street and also on the Reading-Woburn line have been removed, only such poles being left as were used to support other wires.

The electric light and telephone pole lines on Salem Street, Charles Street, and Green Street have been made joint, and on Salem Street where there were formerly three lines of poles, there is now but one.

Practically all of the poles supporting electric light wires have been inspected and many which were defective have been renewed.

The lines in general are in fairly good condition.

Respectfully submitted,

ARTHUR G. SIAS, Inspector of Wires.

Reading, Mass., Jan. 4, 1924.

REPORT OF BUILDING INSPECTOR

To the Honorable Board of Selectmen:

Gentlemen:—I herewith submit the following report for the year 1923.

The building activities the past year are far ahead of any year, since I became Building Inspector.

I have made out reports as requested by the State and sent them to the proper authorities. The reports that I have sent to them were substantially as follows:

Forty-seven (47) new single dwellings at an approximate cost of	\$350,000.00
Two (2) new two family dwelling and twenty-seven (27) houses remodelled into two family dwellings at an approximate cost of	85,000.00
One (1) new theatre building with two (2) stores	
One (1) new church	
Two (2) new work shops	
Forty-two (42) single and double garages	
Four (4) new service or filling stations	
One (1) new telephone building	
Two (2) new buildings containing stores	
One (1) new hen house	
The above mentioned buildings were built at an approximate cost of	\$189,500.00

The total cost of all new and remodelled buildings the past year amounts to approximately	\$624,500.00
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There is no doubt in my mind but there has been some work completed in the past year where no application has been filed and no permit given. I have learned of some cases and have taken immediate steps to have them comply with the Building Laws.

Some time ago I had an article printed in the Reading Chronicle relative to building permits, and the result proved satisfactory for a time, but as you know, the Building Inspector has no funds whatever to work with, and that alone is a severe handicap.

It would be advisable to have the building laws revised as I have suggested before, and have them in printed form so all the contractors and others contemplating building, could have a copy.

Respectfully submitted,

GEORGE H. SIDEBOTTOM, Building Inspector.

REPORT OF BOARD OF HEALTH

There were sixty-two (62) contagious cases reported during the year 1923.

Chicken Pox	7
Diphtheria	26
Scarlet Fever	18
Measles	4
Tuberculosis	4
Pneumonia	1
Whooping Cough	1
Infantile Paralysis	1
Number of Deaths	95
Male	44
Female	51
4 were over	90 years of age
17 were between	80 and 90
19 were between	70 and 80
12 were between	60 and 70
13 were between	50 and 60
5 were between	40 and 50
7 were between	30 and 40
1 was between	20 and 30
3 were between	10 and 20
6 were between	1 and 5
5 were under	1 year
3 were still births.	

E. M. HALLIGAN, M. D.,

C. H. PLAYDON,

C. F. ATKINSON,

Board of Health.

REPORT OF INSPECTOR OF PLUMBING

To the Board of Health:

Gentlemen:—I wish to submit my report for the year ending Dec. 31, 1923:

Number of permits granted.....	116
Water closets installed	106
Bath tubs installed	81
Lavatories installed	90
Sinks installed	103
Wash tubs installed	97
<hr/>	
Total number of fixtures.....	477

Respectfully submitted,

DAVID TAGGART, Inspector of Plumbing.

REPORT OF INSPECTOR OF MILK

Reading, Mass., Dec. 31, 1923

To the Board of Health,
Town of Reading, Mass.

Gentlemen:—I herewith present for your consideration my report for the year 1923.

The standard of the local milk supply for this year has varied very little from that of last year in its average of butter, fats and total solid contents. From a viewpoint of obtaining milk of the best possible food value, this has been very satisfactory, especially as there has been and is being done considerable propaganda work in the schools relating to the value of milk as a food and a necessity to the growing child.

In regard to the testing of the milk for its bacteria contents, or in other words, its standard of cleanliness and purity, which to my mind is quite essential, no action has been taken as yet.

Fifty-four samples of milk and eight samples of cream were analysed this year. Three samples of milk and two of cream were found to be questionable.

Twenty-nine dealers and stores were licensed to sell milk and ten stores were licensed to sell oleomargarine.

The total receipts for the department were \$19.50.

Respectfully submitted,

CARL M. SMITH, Inspector of Milk.

REPORT OF SEALER OF WEIGHTS AND MEASURES

To the Board of Selectmen,
Town of Reading, Mass.

Gentlemen:—I herewith present my annual report for the year 1923.

All scales, weights and measures used in trade in the Town of Reading have been sealed for the year 1923.

If one cares to take the time to compare the receipts of this department for this year with the amount collected for the sealing done last year and will take into consideration the amount charged, they will readily see that the amount of work completed was considerably more than that of previous years.

This is due to two reasons, the first is the increase in the number of stores and secondly to the installation of a number of new gasoline pumps. The latter would require the greater output of one's time to keep them within the legal requirements.

All of the stores have been visited at different times and many of the commodities, as put up for sale, have been weighed. The results of these weighings have been quite satisfactory.

Several pieces of ice were reweighed this summer and in most cases the weight was found to be correct. Tabulations of the entire year's work will be found herewith.

Work Performed from Dec. 1, 1922, to Nov. 30, 1923, Inclusive

Scales	Sealed	Adjusted	Condemned
Platform over 5,000 lbs.....	3	3	
Platform 100 to 5,000 lbs.....	22	15	1
Beam over 100 lbs	5	4	1
Counter under 100 lbs.	43	15	2
Spring under 100 lbs.....	39	8	2
Computing under 100 lbs.	32	20	
Personal Weighing	3		
Prescription	2	2	

2. Weights

Avoirdupois	311	6	6
Apothecary	41		
Metric	12		

3. Volumetric Measures

Liquid Measures	83	1	
Dry Measures	8		

4. Automatic Liquid Measuring Devices

Gasoline Pumps	30		10
Measures on Pumps	161	64	

5. Linear Measures

Yard Sticks	15		
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Work Performed from Dec. 1, 1922, to Nov. 30, 1923, Inclusive

Commodity	Total No. Tested	No. Correct	Incorrect	
			Under	Over
Bread	7	7		
Butter	38	37		1
Dry Commodities	80	80		
Flour	24	16	6	2
Fruits and Vegetables.	54	36	4	14
Ice	9		2	7
Meats and Provisions	34	31		3
Wood (Cord)	1		1	
Gasoline	85	26	17	42
Lard	2	2		

Summary of Inspections

No. of Inspections made of

Chemical Thermometers	2
Ice Scales	2
Junk Scales	2
Gasoline Pumps	6

The total receipts of the department were \$52.81.

CARL M. SMITH, Sealer of Weights and Measures.

Reading, Mass., Dec. 31, 1923.

REPORT OF DEMONSTRATION WORK IN AGRICULTURE AND HOME ECONOMICS

To the Honorable Board of Selectmen:

Report of demonstration work in agriculture and home economics, carried on by the Middlesex County Extension Service in the Town of Reading, during the year ending December 31, 1923.

An appropriation of \$150 was made at the annual meeting for demonstration work, under the direction of Middlesex County Bureau of Agriculture and Home Economics, now known as the Extension Service. Following is a report of the work done by this organization in Reading:

Agents of the Extension Service made 78 farm and home visits during the year. The County Agricultural Agent carried on a poultry project in the town and conducted a poultry automobile tour which was attended by many people from the town.

The Home Department conducted a millinery class and cane-seating class, and a furniture renovation class, all of which were attended by 25 to 30 women. A dress form demonstration was also given by one of the Home Agents.

Extension Service moving pictures were shown and attended by 340 people.

Boys' and girls' clubs had a total enrollment of 57, enrolled in canning, garden, poultry and home economics clubs. Club Agents held 23 meetings, at which instructions were given to the members. Many other meetings were held under the leadership of Mrs. Ida C. Lucas, who worked in co-operation with the Extension Service.

Two-day trips to the Massachusetts Agricultural College were won by Lucien Nelson, Virginia Perry and Alice Hodson.

These young people were a part of the great County Achievement Organization containing nearly 3,000 boys and girls, who produced during the year 1923, \$129,000 worth of products. All of these were under the leadership of agents of the County Extension Service and two hundred volunteer local leaders.

I want to thank the editors of The Reading Chronicle for courtesies extended the past year, and also to thank the School Committee for use of school houses and support.

Inasmuch as the Bureau work in the town has about doubled, I respectfully recommend that two hundred dollars be raised by the town to carry on this year's work.

ROLLAND L. PERRY, Director.

REPORT OF CUSTODIAN OF VETERANS' GRAVES

To the Honorable Board of Selectmen:

Gentlemen:

I herewith submit my second annual report as Custodian of Veteran Soldiers' and Sailors' Graves.

Number of lots re-seeded	5
Sunken graves filled	12
Number lots, grass cut for season	40
Number lots, grass cut once	125
U. S. Government headstone set	1

That more lots have not been seeded is due to the fact that so much loam is required to build new lots and to re-seed private lots, that it has not been possible to procure enough at a reasonable rate to do the work ordered.

The same condition will probably exist for at least another year so that it will probably be two or three years before all veterans' lots are in good condition.

I would recommend that all lots that are now in good condition be properly fertilized and the grass kept cut during the next season; on all the rest keep the grass cut until Memorial Day.

Would also recommend that as many lots as possible be re-seeded selecting the ones that are in the poorest condition.

Financial report:

Cr.	
Appropriation March 1923	\$875.00
Dr.	
Labor, loam, lime, seed and fertilizer	\$361.34
Unexpended balance	513.66
	<hr/>
	\$875.00 \$875.00

Respectfully submitted,

ALFRED E. GOODWIN.

January 23, 1924.

REPORT OF TRUSTEES OF LAUREL HILL CEMETERY

Trustee Alfred W. Danforth passed away in September. In the spring of 1890 the name of Alfred W. Danforth was placed upon the ballot for Cemetery Trustee and he was duly elected to this office. He at once became Secretary of the Board which position he continued to hold until ill health forced him to resign secretaryship on August 19, 1921.

In 1893, Mr. Danforth succeeded R. Dexter Temple as Superintendent, serving in this capacity until the appointment of Alfred E. Goodwin on December 1, 1920. It is seldom if ever that a citizen has held a town office continuously for thirty-three years as did Mr. Danforth. The town is indebted to him who gave so much of his time and effort for the benefit of this department, and his fellow trustees miss his cheery presence and kind counsel.

Mr. Chester P. Eeles has been appointed to fill the unexpired term.

Following is the annual report of Superintendent Goodwin which the Board of Trustees respectfully submits.

GALEN A. PARKER, Chairman
 PHILIP H. TIRRELL, Secretary
 FRANK L. EDGERLEY
 WILLIAM S. KINSLEY
 W. E. TWOMBLY
 CHESTER P. EELES

Trustees Laurel Hill Cemetery.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Trustees of Laurel Hill Cemetery:
 Gentlemen:

I herewith submit my third annual report as Superintendent of Laurel Hill Cemetery.

The work of improving the cemetery has gone along as well as could be expected. Thirty new lots have been graded, loamed and are all ready for seed. The loam is on the ground for as many more.

The necessity for new lots has been so great we have been obliged to use most of the loam we were able to procure for this purpose, thereby cutting down the supply for private work.

Last year, at this time we had orders for the re-seeding of forty lots that we were unable to do the previous season. At the present time we have orders for twenty that we were unable to do last season.

I hope during the coming season to do all work of this nature that we have orders for, as I am anxious to co-operate with the lot owners in every way to improve the looks of the cemetery.

Many of the lots under "Perpetual Care" are in very poor condition and I would like to offer a few words of explanation in regard to their apparent neglect.

The system of perpetual care, as adopted by the Town, is unlike that of any other city or town in the State as far as I have been able to learn. The Town will accept a sum of not less than one hundred dollars (\$100.00) in trust, the interest on which sum at 5% will be expended for the care of said lot forever.

In the past years the Town has accepted money for the care of lots regardless of the condition they were in at the time. As the cost of grading and re-seeding a lot runs from twenty-five (\$25) to fifty dollars (\$50), depending on its location and the amount of loam necessary, one who gives the matter a little thought can readily see that if a grass cutting charge of three dollars (\$3.00) only, is made every year, it will take from thirteen to twenty-five years for sufficient money to accumulate to re-seed the lot. It is important that a lot be in good condition at the start.

Lot owners are realizing the importance of putting their lots under perpetual care. During the past three years the Cemetery Bequest Fund has increased over 36%.

The macadam avenue from the south gate on Main Street to the receiving tomb has been rebuilt and is now in first class condition. It was in such poor condition that it was deemed advisable to rebuild rather than resurface as was planned. The cost was more than estimated but it will last a great many years whereas a resurfacing job would only last a year or two.

I hope we can continue this work, doing a little every year until all four gates are connected with macadam, as the gravel avenues are almost impassable at times in early spring.

In conclusion, I wish to thank the Trustees for their assistance, and for the consideration they have shown me during the past year.

Respectfully submitted,

ALFRED E. GOODWIN, Superintendent.

December 31, 1923.

FINANCIAL REPORT 1923

Appropriation, March, 1923	\$ 8,553.82	
Re-imbursement Royal Indemnity Co.	20.56	
Transferred from Bequest Fund	1,152.19	
Transferred from Veteran Grave acct.	361.34	
Transferred from Cemetery Reserve Fund	2,129.28	
	<hr/>	\$12,217.19

Expended:

Charged to Cemetery Bequest Fund	\$ 1,152.19	
Charged to Veteran Grave acct.	361.34	
Charged to Cemetery Reserve Fund	2,393.54	
Charged to Maintenance	3,666.19	
Charged to Annual Care	3,488.44	
Unexpended balance	1,155.49	
	<hr/>	\$12,217.19

Receipts:

Amount receivable January 1, 1923	\$ 201.11	
Received for Opening Graves	903.00	
Received for Annual Care	1,500.27	
Outstanding bills December 31, 1923	700.36	
	<hr/>	\$ 3,304.74

CEMETERY RESERVE FUND

Balance Cemetery Reserve Fund January 1, 1923	\$ 577.11	
Lots and Graves Sold 1923:		
10 Single Graves	236.00	
6 Four Grave Lots	775.00	
4 Six Grave Lots	700.00	
6 Eight Grave Lots	1,200.00	
	<hr/>	\$3,488.11
Transferred to Cemetery acct. December 26, 1923	2,129.28	
	<hr/>	
Balance in Cemetery Reserve Fund Dec. 31, 1923		\$ 1,358.83

PERPETUAL CARE 1923

Lot No.:

823	Bertha G. Temple	\$100.00
	Henry T. Leavis	100.00
925	Edith A. Tipper	100.00
483	Cora J. Jaquith	100.00
1059	Horace Brown	100.00
358	M. Elma Pierce	100.00
1052	Adolph S. Larson	100.00
152	Elmer J. Brown	100.00

1085	Hazen K. Symonds	100.00
266	Nellie A. Richardson	100.00
263	Harriett E. Richardson	100.00
497	Arthur N. Mansfield	100.00
561	W. E. and J. F. Twombly	100.00
718	Susan G. Putnam	100.00
990	H. E. Cummings	100.00
279	Mary C. Richardson heirs	100.00
236	Mrs. Arthur O. Fuller	100.00
364	Carl M. Spencer	100.00
997	E. L. Wright, Trustee	100.00
766	Edith M. Martin	100.00
374	Eliza Talbot	100.00
944	Lucy Mack estate	100.00
746	Frank A. Colby	100.00
195	Louisa B. Jenkins	100.00
241	Grace L. Twombly	100.00
663	James A. Gaetz	100.00
S. G. No. 105-6	Grace B. Shepardson	50.00
252-3-4	G. G. Clouse	75.00
255	Arthur H. Cook	25.00
256-7	Alden S. Johnson	50.00
258-9	George W. Davis	50.00
260-1	Mary A. Lowell	50.00
269-70	Carl O. Carlson	50.00
		<hr/>
		\$2950.00

	Construction New Lots	Tools and Equipment	General Maintenance	Truck, Gas and Oil	Truck, Repairs	Office Expense	Total
Percy N. Sweetser	\$ 862.00		\$ 418.50				\$ 1280.50
Frank F. Simpson			33.00				33.00
Cummings Express			16.55				16.55
Am. Railway Ex.			3.04				3.04
Est. of Jason Zwicker			120.00				120.00
Readi'g Gar. & Ser. Sta.				\$ 87.13			87.13
John St. Garage					\$ 58.79		58.79
Reading Motor Co.					7.56		7.56
S. R. Stenbridge				25.75			25.75
Alex. Lindsay					17.50		17.50
N. E. Tel. & Tel. Co.						\$ 68.08	68.08
Braman, Dow Co.	139.57						139.57
Municipal Light Board			3.60				3.60
Francis Brothers		\$ 31.66					31.66
Hodson Brothers			11.89				11.89
Henry A. Feindel			94.75				94.75
Joseph Peters	14.00						14.00
Fred F. Smith			3.50				3.50
Adams, Cush'g & Foster						8.68	8.68
Reliance Rib. & Car. Co.						1.00	1.00
Yawman, Erbe Mfg. Co.						16.50	16.50
Zanni & Co.	900.00						900.00
S. H. Davis Hdw. Co.		59.75					59.75
Atlantic Marine Exch.		16.00					16.00
W. E. & J. F. Twombly						31.00	31.00
P. J. Seaman		14.73					14.73
The Hodges Co.		41.86					41.86
Cutter, Wood Sup. Co.		56.24					56.24
A. E. Goodwin						8.27	8.27
Halliday Sales Co.		3.50					3.50
Howard W. Batchelder			2.00				2.00
Reading Water Works			8.90				8.90
Francis B. Hunt			18.00				18.00
Joseph Breck & Sons			55.08				55.08
Reading Greenhouses			18.53				18.53
F. E. & E. L. Emery			25.50				25.50
T. C. Pife			11.28				11.28
Frigid Fluid Co.		7.50					7.50
Berger Mfg. Co.			247.83				247.83
Oliver W. Austin		9.00					9.00
Malis Power Sup. Co.		19.00					19.00
M. F. Charles						.14	.14
The Barrett Co.			350.00				350.00
Gen. Crus. Stone Co.			241.94				241.94
Melvin McCoubry					2.00		2.00
O. O. Ordway		4.35					4.35
Waldo Bros. & Bond		6.37					6.37
Lowe & Powers		40.00					40.00
Willard P. Adden			9.00				9.00
Pay Roll	498.88		4378.00			1934.00	6810.88
	\$2414.45	\$ 309.96	\$6070.89	\$ 112.88	\$ 85.85	\$2067.67	\$11,061.70

REPORT OF PUBLIC LIBRARY

The Trustees of the Public Library submit the following report:

ORGANIZATION OF THE BOARD

The Board organized for the year by the choice of Mr. Wadlin, Chairman, and of Mr. Mansfield as Secretary. Standing Committees were appointed as follows:

On Accounts: Messrs. Wadlin, Mansfield and Doughty.

On Books: Mr. Mansfield, Miss Whittemore and Miss Bancroft.

On Building and Grounds: Messrs. Wadlin and Keneely and Miss Bancroft.

On Work with Children: Miss Whittemore and Miss Bancroft.

EXPENSES OF THE LIBRARY

Following is a condensed financial statement:

Appropriation, direct tax, 1923:

Salaries	\$ 2,050.00
Maintenance	3,050.00
	<hr/>
Total from tax levy.....	\$ 5,100.00

Expended

Salaries: Librarian, Assistants and Janitor	\$ 1,995.98
Books and periodicals, including re-binding.....	1,656.61
Printing, stationery, etc.....	160.24
Fuel, light, water, sewerage.....	388.10
Repairs	740.20
Miscellaneous	101.23
	<hr/>
	\$ 5,042.36
Balance unexpended:	
On salaries	\$ 54.02
On maintenance	3.62
	<hr/>
	\$ 57.64
	<hr/>
	\$ 5,100.00

REPAIRS

The unusual amount expended for repairs is due to work to cover certain defects in the plastered ceilings, referred to in our last report, which was provided for by an adequate increase in our appropriation for 1923.

ADDITIONS TO THE LIBRARY

Volumes in library, close of 1922.....	11,521
Volumes bought, including replacements	844
Received by gift	90
	<hr/>
	12,455
Worn out or discarded and not replaced.....	565
	<hr/>
Total number of volumes Dec. 31, 1923.....	11,890

The net gain is 369 volumes. The discarded books include 250 volumes held in storage in the basement, of virtually no value, occupying space urgently needed. Eleven books were burned because they had been exposed to contamination from contagious diseases while in the hands of borrowers, and 29 were lost under circulation during the year.

The volumes added to the library include 180 in the class "fiction for adults," and 186 non-fiction for adults. Fiction for young readers include 194 volumes and non-fiction 127. The replacement of worn-out, lost or discarded books include 72 for adults and 85 for young readers. The gifts from private donors numbered 81 volumes, and the other gifts were State or U. S. Government publications.

The State Library Commission has provided a carefully selected list of books for young readers, adapted to the several school grades. For pupils who complete the prescribed course, under stated conditions, the Commission issues a certificate of merit. We have undertaken to co-operate with this Commission by providing an adequate number of the required volumes, in grades three, four and five, and those needed for the other grades are to be bought. The books for grade three were ready for "Children's Book Week" so-called, Nov. 11 to 17. Owing to unavoidable delays those for grades four and five were not ready until later, and only one pupil, Philip G. Parker, having read the required number and complied with the conditions, received a certificate. This effort to broaden the reading of children in the schools to which Miss Whittemore of the Trustees has given special and very helpful attention, has aroused keen interest, and hereafter, without doubt, many pupils will win certificates of merit.

The Report of the Librarian to the Trustees regarding the work of the library contains the following interesting comments:

"A change made in our rules, allowing adult readers to take at a time more than one volume of non-fiction, and that reducing the age limit for children from ten to eight years have been much appreciated. Of the new borrowers registered during the year 257 were under 14 years of age out of a total of 558."

"For Children's Book Week, annually observed, three 'Story Hours' for children, were held in Library Hall, through the kind co-operation of the Story-Hour Committee of the Reading Woman's Club, Miss Margaret E. Whittier, Chairman."

"Library Hall has also been used for various meetings not inharmonious with the library service."

"The Woman's Educational Association (of Massachusetts) lent the library an Audubon travelling collection of books on birds, which remained here during the summer."

"Advanced pupils from the High School have been employed as extra assistants as required during the closing months of the year, and paid by the hour for service rendered. . . . There is now so much reference work in the library and so much use of the reading room during the winter evenings, that three attendants are usually needed. These helpers from the High School have been able to provide advance lists of reference topics required in school work, or the advance lists of reading posted at the school, and also to assist pupils at the library in the necessary reference investigation."

"A new feature introduced this year should draw the library and the public schools still more closely together. This is the installation of a 'Teacher's Collection' of books relating to pedagogical and allied subjects, transferred through Mr. Safford, Superintendent of Schools, from the School Department to the library, and placed on deposit in a special alcove. These numbered 446 volumes, which have been classified and catalogued by the Librarian, and they are to be circulated under the regular rules of the library, although for longer than the usual period, i. e. for four weeks, renewable for an additional four weeks. Although primarily for the use of teachers, they are open to general circulation. A list of the books, printed by co-operation of the School Department, is available."

"On August 1, 1923, the present Librarian completed twenty years' service, and the present Assistant Librarian fifteen years. It may be interesting to recall briefly, how the work has increased and changed under the more liberal conditions of present-day management, conforming to methods common in public libraries in Massachusetts.

The circulation (for home use) has increased from 17,821 in 1903 to 41,607 during the past year. The requirement of three months' residence in town before a borrower's card might be issued has been abolished. The age limit under which cards were granted has been reduced from fourteen to eight.

The greatest increase in the use of the library, both in books taken out and in the reference and reading room use, followed the occupancy of the new building in 1918. The succeeding year showed a gain in circulation of

4,000 volumes. The use of the library by the children has grown steadily since the age limit was changed. In 1915, at the suggestion and with the assistance of the Woman's Club, story-hours for children were established. Now, the children are the most constant users of the library.

In 1903 borrowers were excluded from the shelves, and the Librarian, who was without assistance, except on Saturday evenings, searched for books through a list of numbers selected from a catalogue chained to a desk near the door. Now, there are no barriers. Borrowers may look the books over and select those they wish to read.

Except while unusually busy (during 'rush hours') three attendants are ready to render assistance in book selection or to respond willingly when, for example, a child requests 'an easy book for me,' adding, 'and mother says 'will you please pick out a book for her.' ''

To this interesting record of progress noted by the Librarian we are glad to add that (as noted in previous reports) the changes have been accomplished without a corresponding advance in the expense of the library in relation to the general cost of municipal administration. Except for an occasional and unusual item, like that incurred in repairs last year, the relatively small cost of the library as a part of the annual expenses of the town has not materially changed in recent years. The expense is negligible as affecting the tax rate.

And today instead of occupying a single crowded room held under lease, without decoration, and in which the proper development of the library was impossible, we have a thoroughly modern and progressive library, housed in a tasteful and convenient building of our own.

We may congratulate ourselves also that the new building was built at a fortunate time. A year later the complications incident to the war, materially advancing the costs of construction, would perhaps have made its erection unadvisable or impossible. It was one of the last town libraries to which, before the death of Mr. Carnegie, his generosity (through the Carnegie Corporation) contributed. And, as part of the development of a municipal centre opposite the Common, it was carried through before the town was obliged to face the construction of a sewer system, and other pressing problems involving considerable expense.

It is a public library building simply, without other more or less expensive adjuncts. It is not magnificent, but is of type harmonizing with our old New England architecture, fitting its site without breaking with the traditions which have come down from the first settlement of this parish of Old Reading (now our modern town), here on Nathaniel Parker's farm, and it serves its purpose well, without unduly burdening the town on account of up-keep.

It is pertinent to report also that certain claims in litigation, brought by sub-contractors against the contractor for the building who unfortunately failed before the completion of his contract, have during the past year been

settled by the contractor's sureties, thereby releasing to parties in interest the unpaid balance on the contract, held by us since 1918, and the town is therefore now relieved from any further connection with that matter.

USE OF THE LIBRARY

Volumes borrowed for home use.....	41,607
Increase over previous year.....	808
Largest monthly circulation, March.....	4,214
Smallest, August	2,836
Number of new borrowers registered.....	558
Number of days open during the year.....	251
Average daily circulation, home use.....	165.7

RECEIPTS OF THE LIBRARY

These include:

Fines, etc., collected (for over-detention of books, chiefly) ..	\$262.72
Waste paper, etc., sold.....	9.25
Cash on hand, Jan. 1, 1923.....	9.72
	<hr/>
	\$281.69
Paid to Town Treasurer.....	263.00
	<hr/>
Balance on hand	\$ 18.69

REVIEW OF PURCHASES

The new books as bought continuously through the year have been listed in the library, especially displayed to bring them to the attention of readers, and from time to time the titles have been published in the Chronicle.

Of current fiction we have endeavored to make a careful selection, both with regard to the merit of the books bought and to their interest to various classes of readers. The books purchased for young readers, to which we have devoted particular attention, include, as we have said, duplicate volumes in considerable number to meet the requirements of the standardized course prepared by the State Library Commission.

Disregarding these two groups—fiction and books for the young—we call attention here to ten volumes only, in each of four other classes, the titles selected at random from a list which might be considerably extended: In Biography: Bok, "The Man from Maine"; Cartwright, "Beatrice D'Este"; Kohlsaat, "From McKinley to Harding"; Page, "Thomas Nelson Page"; Jordan, "Days of a Man"; Van Dyke, "Catherine De Medicis"; Waddington, "Letters of a Diplomat's Wife, 1883-1900"; Trevelyan, "Mrs. Humphrey Ward"; Mrs. Wiggin, "My Garden of Memories"; Stone, "Fifty Years a Journalist."

In Travel and Description: Boyce, "Australia and New Zealand"; Carpenter, "Alaska"; Cooper, "Understanding Italy"; Niles, "Casual Wanderings in Ecuador"; Puxley, "Wanderings in the Queensland Bush";

Vaka, "Unveiled Ladies of Stamboul"; Verrill, "In the Wake of the Buccaneers"; Wister, "Neighbors Henceforth"; Hallays, "Spell of Provence"; Priestly, "The Mexican Nation"; Franek, "Wandering in Northern China."

In History: Hadley, "Rome and the World Today"; Hayden and Moonan, "Short History of the Irish People"; Milliukov, "Russia"; Walsh, "What Civilization Owes to Italy"; Nitti, "Decadence of Europe"; Harris, "Service with the Fighting Men (Y. M. C. A.)"; "History of the 14th Engineers, U. S. A."; Cook, "Fifty Years on the Old Frontier"; Adams, "Revolutionary New England"; Chapman, "History of California."

Miscellaneous: Santayana, "Soliloquies in England"; Sherman, "Genius of America"; Dewey, "Human Nature and Conduct" and "Reconstruction in Philosophy"; Kendall and Kochler, "Radio Simplified"; Cardinal O'Connell, "Sermons and Addresses"; Papini, "Life of Christ"; Cotterill, "History of Art"; Fabre, "This Earth of Ours"; Abbot, "What Christianity Means to Me."

These titles indicate, very imperfectly, the range of our purchases. As we have always noted in our annual reports, the librarian offers her services to help borrowers in selecting books for reading, and will list for examination and for possible purchase any book which may be recommended by patrons of the library.

BUDGET FOR 1924

Our budget or requirements for the ensuing year, based upon our present scale of expenditure, which includes, as suggested in our report one year ago, a progressive increase in our salary list until an equitable maximum for the salaries of the librarian and assistant librarian is reached, is as follows:

Fuel, light, water, sewerage charge	\$ 500.00
Printing and supplies	150.00
Books, periodicals, binding, etc.	1800.00
Repairs, etc.	150.00
Miscellaneous expenditures	100.00
<hr/>	
Total maintenance	\$2700.00
Salaries	2250.00
<hr/>	
Total appropriation required	\$4950.00
(As against an appropriation of \$5100 in 1923.)	

We estimate the receipts of the department to be turned into the treasury of the Town at \$225.00. These receipts, together with the refund on dog tax which under the statute is applicable to the purposes of the library, but under our method of accounting is treated as a treasury receipt, offset an equivalent amount of our direct appropriation.

The net reduction in our estimate for the coming year as compared with the appropriation made for 1923 is \$150. The appropriation for 1923 included an unusual amount for repairs. The item for repairs is therefore reduced as compared with that provided for at that time. But the estimated requirement for books and periodicals is increased, owing to the increased demand made upon the library, especially for educational reading in connection with the work of the schools. Slight increases in other items are due to the normal increase in circulation and in the general work thereby falling upon the library. These increases offset part of the reduced requirement for repairs. The result, however, is a reduction of \$350 in our estimates for maintenance as a whole (apart from salaries) in comparison with the total appropriation for 1923.

In order that our recommendation as to salaries, made last year and endorsed by the necessary appropriation subsequently made, may not be forgotten, we reproduce its salient points here:

“The use of the library is constantly increasing It is an important educational institution and it ought to be used up to its limit. . . . The building is now open only two hours less in each week than are the grade schools The outside time required from the librarian, that is, service time beyond the number of hours the library is actually open to the public is probably as great as that required from the teachers, at least from those in the lower grades. . . . the teachers have ten weeks’ vacation in each year. The librarian and assistant have three only. At present the combined salary list (librarian, assistant librarian, minor assistants and janitor taken together) is but little more than the amount paid to one minor grade teacher only. . . . We recommend an enlarged appropriation for salaries, until an adequate maximum is reached. The increase annually may be progressive and adjusted so as not to fall entirely in any one year.”

The enlarged appropriation for salaries in 1923 was granted as recommended, and our budget recommendation for salaries for the coming year (\$200 increase over 1923) covers our immediate progressive salary requirement now needed.

CONCLUSION

We repeat our acknowledgment of the faithful and loyal services of Miss Bertha L Brown, librarian; Miss Grace Abbott, assistant, and those of Mr. Charles H. Stinchfield, janitor. The minor assistants, employed from time to time, have been uniformly helpful.

Two vacancies are to be filled at the town meeting, the terms of **Mr. Arthur N. Mansfield** and of **Miss Edith Bancroft**, expiring.

Respectfully submitted,

HORACE G. WADLIN, Chairman
ARTHUR N. MANSFIELD, Secretary
RALPH S. KENEELY
CHARLES F. DOUGHTY
FANNIE C. WHITTEMORE
EDITH BANCROFT

Trustees.

Adopted as the Report of the Trustees:
January 25, 1924.

REPORT OF BOARD OF SELECTMEN

To the Citizens of Reading:

The several departments under our direct supervision have been for the past year and are now functioning in a manner which we believe warrants little if any criticism. We feel that the town is to be congratulated upon the high standard of ability and integrity which is daily manifested in the conduct of the affairs of the town by its employees. We know from our own observation that this is true, individually and collectively, of the personnel composing the various departments, and particularly so of the Police and Fire Departments which have often been put to severe tests and not found wanting, and we hope the townspeople appreciate this and will assist us in keeping up the present high standard by voting the sums recommended by us to permit the raises in pay which are necessary to the accomplishment of this purpose.

This Board realizes that large expenditures are involved, but after careful and conscientious consideration, and believing that the tax-payers will not approve a "penny wise and pound foolish" policy which will allow the town property and its good name to suffer immediately thereby, we make the following recommendations:—

A new Police Station.

Increased pay for the Police and Fire Departments.

Motorcycle and side care for Police Department.

Combination B repainted and new tires.

Repairs Central Fire Station.

Motor Truck for Moth and Tree Warden Departments.

Payment of doctors' bills and lost time for two of our firemen (Charles E. Tasney and Capt. Owen McKenney) who were severely injured in performance of duty.

Porch over rear entrance to Municipal Building.

Construction of sidewalk on Lowell Street side of Municipal Building.

Two flashing beacon lights have been temporarily installed on trial, one at Main and Washington Streets and the other on Haven Street opposite the Railroad Station; also a cross-roads overhead light suspended at Woburn Street and Summer Avenue. Should they prove helpful in the elimination of accidents, we feel that they could be used advantageously in several other dangerous places in town where warning signals should be placed, and in this manner be an inexpensive way to assist our small Police Department in the handling of motor traffic.

In conclusion, we wish to express our appreciation for the hearty co-operation given us by all other Town Departments. Special mention should be made of the gift by the Board of Public Works to the Selectmen, of a large and complete map of the Town, made by Mr. John W. Owen, a member of the Reading Board of Public Works. This map fills a long felt want and now hangs in the Selectmen's Office for the convenience of all desiring to use it.

The burdens of our office have been greatly lightened by the efficiency and helpfulness of our immediate assistants, the Town Accountant, Mr. Bent, and the Poor Visitor, Miss Brown, to whom we extend our thanks, as well as to all others who have assisted us in any way.

FREDERICK L. SPRINGFORD

H. RAYMOND JOHNSON

JOSEPH D. KNIGHT

Selectmen of Reading.

Dec. 31, 1923.

REPORT OF BOARD OF OVERSEERS OF THE POOR

The problems of the Board of Overseers are so closely related to the work of our Visitor that we submit the Visitor's report, which follows, as the report for this board. The financial statement of the Poor Department is found in the report of the Town Accountant, to which we refer you for that information.

FREDERICK L. SPRINGFORD

H. RAYMOND JOHNSON

JOSEPH D. KNIGHT

Overseers of the Poor.

REPORT OF VISITOR

To the Overseers of the Poor:

I herewith submit my annual report for the year 1923.

The work of the Visitor has increased during the past year, there being more applications for aid than during 1922. In the majority of cases the aid rendered was made necessary through serious illness on the part of the wage-earner. There have been fewer cases needing aid on account of lack of employment than the previous year. Poor housing facilities and high rents have caused hardship in some instances. Considering that the aid given through this department is paid for by all the taxpayers, we have tried to give adequate aid without maintaining the family better than the average working man can maintain his family, and in almost every case the aid has been only partial. We have urged people to be as thrifty as possible, and as the needs of every family are different there is never a stated amount given, but each case is considered individually and a great effort is made to deal justly with all.

The Visitor recorded 414 calls made. Thirteen families are now being aided in their homes, beside five receiving Mother's Aid, and four receiving Temporary Aid from the State. Three children are being boarded under the Division of Child Guardianship and five adults are boarded in homes. Nine cases were discontinued during the year, including two who had Mother's Aid.

The Visitor wishes to express her gratitude for the help received from Mr. Bent, the Clerk of the Board. His unfailing interest and aid given in cases where social problems were difficult to handle, and the amount of time given in this work, are much appreciated.

The co-operation of the Visiting Nurse and School Nurse in cases of illness and child welfare work has been a great assistance.

Thanks are extended to the many individuals and organizations who gave freely at Thanksgiving and Christmas, thus making many children and homes happier on those days. The Visitor was pleased to be able, through gifts from several sources, to distribute toys and useful Christmas gifts to fifty children.

Grateful acknowledgment is made to the members of the Board of Overseers for their courtesy and consideration, without which it would be difficult to carry on the work.

Respectfully submitted,

HELEN A. BROWN, Visitor.

REPORT OF PLANNING BOARD

The Planning Board hereby submits to the Town its Annual Report covering the year 1923.

In order that the townspeople may know the duties of the Planning Board we hereby quote Section 70, 71 and 72 of Chapter 41 of the General Laws of Massachusetts authorizing the establishment of Planning Boards in cities and towns.

“Section 70. Every city and every town having a population of more than ten thousand at the last preceding national or state census shall, and towns having a population of less than ten thousand may, create a planning board, which shall make careful studies of the resources, possibilities and needs of the town, particularly with respect to conditions injurious to the public health or otherwise in and about rented dwellings, and make plans for the development of the municipality, with special reference to proper housing of its inhabitants. In cities the said board shall be appointed by the mayor, subject to confirmation by the council, and in towns shall be elected at the annual town meeting.

“Section 71. Every planning board shall make a report annually to the city council or to the annual town meeting giving information regarding the condition of the town and any plans or proposals for its development and estimates of the cost thereof. Every such planning board shall file with the department of public welfare a copy of each report made by it.

“Section 72. Cities and towns may make ordinances and by-laws for carrying out the purposes of section seventy, and they may appropriate money therefor. The planning board of a town may be authorized by vote of the town to act as park commissioners therein, and may be vested with all the powers and duties of park commissioners in towns.”

Mr. Willard P. Adden and Mr. Robert E. Parker were appointed to fill the vacancies on the Board caused by the resignations of Amos M. McLean, Esq., and Mr. Leone F. Quimby.

During the year various matters affecting the welfare of the Town have been brought to the attention of this Board by interested citizens and the following are some of the problems that are being studied:

- (a) The advisability of establishing a Town Forest.
- (b) The improvement of the safety and appearance of Reading Square by establishing a building line therein.
- (c) The improvement of the Common by reseeding and planting additional shrubbery and trees.

(d) The benefit to be derived by the citizens and public by moving the bandstand to Memorial Park.

(e) The establishment of building lines on certain Town highways.

(f) Health conditions in certain localities.

With the assistance of Mr. E. T. Hartman, State Consultant of Housing and Planning, and others experienced in this line of work, this Board is making a careful study of the question of zoning. Zoning cannot be done without expense to the Town but the benefit derived by the Town and the taxpayers will, in our opinion, far exceed the cost.

Respectfully submitted,

WILLARD P. ADDEN, Chairman

HELEN R. GRIMES, Secretary

JOHN L. DODGE

ROBERT E. PARKER

MARY F. DANIEL

ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
SCHOOL COMMITTEE
OF THE
TOWN OF READING

For the Year Ending December 31

1923

SCHOOL COMMITTEE

Walter S. Parker, Ch., 55 Walnut St.	Term expires 1926
Leone F. Quimby, 25 Howard St.	Term expires 1926
Mrs. Elizabeth H. Brown, 83 Prospect St.	Term expires 1924
Henry Q. Millett, 59 Linden St.	Term expires 1924
Mrs. Ida A. Young, 86 Woburn St.	Term expires 1925
Jesse W. Morton, 114 Woburn St.	Term-expires 1925

School Committee Office, High School

Clerk, Margaret Hunt	Res. 30 Hill Crest Road
Office Hours, 8.30 a.m. to 4 p.m., except on Saturdays, 9 a.m. to 12 m.	

Superintendent of Schools

Adelbert L. Safford, Office, High School.	Res. 8 Middlesex Avenue
Office Hours, 8.30 to 9.30 a.m. on school days.	

Attendance Officer

Abigal H. Mingo	Office—High School
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School Physician

Charles R. Henderson, M. D.	126 Woburn Street
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School Nurse

Mabel M. Brown, R. N., Office, High School	Res. 53 Fourth St., Medford
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Janitors

	Salaries
High School, Clement Gleason, 64 Orange St.	\$1,300.00
High School Matron, Ara A. Pratt, 29 Orange St.	1,040.00
Highland School, Jesse N. Hutchinson, 79 Bancroft Ave.	1,300.00
Grouard House, Wm. Killam, 15 Locust St.	127.50
Grouard House, Olive S. Kelley, North Reading	100.00
Center School, Waldo Reid, 20 Ash St.	1,300.00
Union St. School, Waldo Reid, 20 Ash St.	
Lowell St. School, Sylvanus L. Thompson, Intervale Terrace	650.00
Prospect St. School, Walter F. Cook, 6 Ash St.	650.00
Chestnut Hill School, Harry S. Lovejoy, 47 Hopkins St.	520.00

ORGANIZATION OF SCHOOL COMMITTEE

Walter S. Parker, Chairman

Adelbert L. Safford, Secretary

SUB-COMMITTEES

W. S. Parker, Chairman, is member ex-officio of each sub-committee

Finance and Accounts

L. F. Quimby

H. Q. Millett

J. W. Morton

Books and Supplies

Mrs. Ida A. Young

J. W. Morton

School Houses and Property

H. Q. Millett

J. W. Morton

L. F. Quimby

Rules and Regulations

Mrs. Elizabeth H. Brown

L. F. Quimby

H. Q. Millett

Teachers and Salaries

L. F. Quimby

J. W. Morton

Music and Drawing

Mrs. Ida A. Young

J. W. Morton

Mrs. Elizabeth H. Brown

Course of Study

L. F. Quimby

Mrs. Ida A. Young

J. W. Morton

REPORT OF SCHOOL COMMITTEE, 1923

To the Citizens of Reading:

The Reading School Committee submits the annual report of 1923. Attention is especially called to the report of the Superintendent and other school officers.

Renewed interest in Education was clearly shown in Education Week in November, 1923.

President Coolidge in his proclamation calling the American people to observe Education Week, said "Despotism finds its chief support in ignorance. Knowledge and freedom go hand in hand." Thomas Jefferson said, "If a nation expects to be ignorant and free in a state of civilization, it expects what never was and never will be." James Madison once said, "Knowledge will forever govern ignorance; and a people who mean to be their own governors must arm themselves with the power which knowledge gives."

When we realize the number of republics that are being formed or established in many parts of the world we are in grave doubt whether the people are ready to successfully carry on constitutional republics. It has been said by a recent writer that, "there never was a time in the history of the world when sound education was so much needed as now. Some of the peoples of the earth have recently achieved democracy, while others have had it thrust upon them, and they have recognized, one and all, that in every democracy, old or new, the one outstanding obligation and chief concern is the education of the rank and file of its people."

Daily, America is being pressed for the solution of problems about which her people know little, and in the final analysis it is the people who must pass judgment upon them. From the hour of our Declaration of Independence America has been a beacon star in the firmament of the nations, and the peoples of the earth have constantly looked to her for inspiration and guidance in moulding their own destinies.

If America is to hold her place as leader in the world for universal Education among all the people, more efficient work must be done in the direction of reducing the alarming illiteracy in the United States and more care must be taken in securing a higher quality of immigrant coming to our shores, our doors must still be opened, but closed forever to the criminal and outcasts of other countries. We have too many illiterates among our native born to rest and be content with the results. Is it possible that there are 5,000,000 confessed illiterates in this country, over 3,000,000 of whom are native Born Americans? That constitutes at once a national liability and a national menace. One writer states that one man in every four who

was drafted and sent across the seas "to make the world safe for democracy" could neither read a newspaper in English nor write a letter home."

These facts and figures pertain to the Nation as a whole. How do they apply to us? We have a few illiterates, but should we have a single one? We present the opportunity for every child in our midst to attend school. The teachers and attendance officer are doing all that can be expected of them, yet the results are sometimes poor indeed. It seems at times that our answer to the question "What is Education?" or "What is it to be Educated?" is likely to be narrow and apply to one part of our being.

It is said that "we are fearfully and wonderfully made." How true that is when we think of our three-fold nature—moral, mental and physical—and how closely they are inter-related. We conceive too often, of Education as knowing something, while Education to be complete must result in doing something and the moral nature exhibits itself by the way and manner or the motive with which the work is done. A fountain does not rise above its source. As a practical matter we cannot communicate what we have not got. It is well understood that one cannot impart Knowledge which one does not possess.

It is less completely understood that neither can one communicate character or goodness or spirituality, unless, indeed, one has gained these great possessions for one's self, we would put self-control as one of the desirable attainments in a teacher of youth.

The question often comes to us as parents, "Are our boys and girls getting the full benefit they should receive from the school? If not, why not?" The old adage, "Train up a child in the way he should go and when he is old he will not depart from it." Remember the emphasis is upon the first word, "Train," which means the child must **do**, must **work**. Training is the production of habit. "The end of Education is the development of character. The test of character is the capacity for service."

The appropriation for 1924 requested of the Town is printed in some detail in the table entitled "Budget of School Department, Town of Reading, 1924" and comparative accounts of expenditures for 1921-2-3 are shown in the same table. The terms of Henry Q. Millett and Elizabeth H. Brown expire in February, 1924. These two positions as members of the Reading School Committee are to be filled by election at the annual town meeting in March.

For the School Committee:

WALTER S. PARKER, Chairman
ELIZABETH H. BROWN
HENRY Q. MILLETT
JESSE W. MORTON
LEONE F. QUIMBY
IDA A. YOUNG

REPORT OF SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS, 1923

To the Honorable, The School Committee:

My eleventh annual report of the progress of the Reading Public Schools is respectfully submitted herewith. This is the thirtieth report of the series rendered by the Superintendents of Reading Schools.

The year nineteen hundred twenty-three has been characterized by a good degree of success obtained in all departments of school work and by the continuation of systematic efforts on the part of the teachers to improve the quality of our product along lines (outlined in some detail in last year's report) of making what goes on inside of schools an adequate approach to what goes on outside of school and inculcating through the discipline of school activities "those habits and attitudes essential to successful living." Judge W. B. Swaney of Chattanooga, Tenn., published recently "a very thoughtful communication in which he points out that the world is out of joint as the result of the war and that the best authorities are unanimous in their opinion that the burden to save America rests upon the public schools." Judge Swaney in his article also calls attention to "the splendid report of Judge Martin J. Wade as chairman of a special committee of the American Bar Association on American Citizenship in which Judge Wade describes briefly and concisely the many dangerous and insidious attacks that are being waged against our government." Judge Swaney says, "This report by Judge Wade ranks in importance as a state paper with Jefferson's immortal Declaration of Independence and the messages of our greatest presidents. Two sentences stand out prominently and will linger in the memory of all who read it. 'There is but one remedy for our national ills, education, and the schools of America must save America'." Such a view of present conditions fixes a very grave responsibility upon all officials and citizens concerned with maintaining the integrity of the public schools. Standardized tests are now in use that measure with scientific precision the pupil's attainments in the three R's and concomitant branches, but evidences of the results obtained by teachers in their efforts to inculcate the practice of moral idealism by their pupils are often somewhat intangible and not susceptible to accurate measurement. Yet on no other basis than moral responsibility can we estimate with reliability the progress of the schools in the Herculean task of "Saving America." Judge Swaney says further, "An effort has been made to get first-hand information from leading writers and educators. There is substantial agreement with Judge Wade's conclusion that education is the chief dependence for a solution of the political maladies now afflicting the nation." Mr. Sisley Huddleston, now Paris

correspondent of the London Times, a position which many regard as first in the newspaper world, writes in a current magazine: "What for me is the saddest feature of the European upheaval is the menace to education. There has been an undoubted perversion not only of the masses but of the classes in Europe,—and I am not sure that the perversion has not reached America,—since we engaged in the dreadful business of killing each other, followed by the more dreadful business of completing the economic ruin of each other. That our own generation has been spoiled by the hideous events of the last decade is of comparatively little importance. It would be, however, an entirely different matter if we saw that the generations to come after us were becoming rotten at the root."

"We could be indifferent to everything if only we could be sure that while national currencies collapse, while moral currencies collapse, while intellectual currencies collapse, the education of the young was not collapsing."

Another current article on Education opens with the following quotation from President Coolidge: "The thing which the world needs most is a proper spiritual conception of human relationships." The article goes on to say "the gloomy forebodings of such far-seeing thinkers as Hilaire Belloc has had at least this good effect—they have called attention to the fact that we are living in a fool's paradise if we imagine that democracy can run itself. There are two principal forces which make for the ultimate success of democratic endeavor. One is legislation, and the other education. If education fails to measure up to the requirements of the democratic state, if its administration is bad, its upkeep too expensive, its curriculum not fashioned to meet the growing demands made upon it, we have reached a situation fraught with the direst possible consequences." "The plain man rightly conceives of education as the surest means that has been developed to make certain the preservation of himself and his children."

James Harvey Robinson, author of "Mind in the Making," has recently written this: "If human intelligence is to be raised to a point where it can cope successfully with the burning problems now facing mankind, it can only be done by revolutionizing the minds of the young." Similar quotations from recent books and magazines affirming the supreme importance of sound education at this crisis could be continued almost indefinitely. They all agree in stressing intelligent moral responsibility in conduct as the dominant aim of education. One writer says in closing his argument "if we educate at all other points but fail to educate at the point of responsibility, we shall inevitably come to no good end." Yale University has recently issued a pamphlet on the Purpose and Value of a College Education by Arthur Twining Hadley. He says, "What a well-trained man has been really acquiring in school, in college, and in after life is not a body of facts but a set of habits; not a system of more or less specialized knowledge but a group of mental

powers that go with his habits. Education for citizenship, if rightly conceived, is a training directed towards the development of these powers. It is not a process in which the teacher is chiefly concerned with imparting knowledge to the student. It is a process in which the student by his own efforts under the teacher's guidance or outside of it develops power to get the information he needs, from time to time, and apply it to the conditions which come before him. For the successful conduct of the business of citizenship we must develop these three powers: Self-government, public spirit, and constructive thought. There is no royal road by which we can get the kind of knowledge which will teach us to exercise them. It is a thing we must work out for ourselves. Not that we have to work it out unaided. We get help from the graduates, from the Faculties, and from our own fellow students."

There can be no question but that such conceptions of educative aims raise grave problems in respect to the curriculum, the personnel of the teaching corps, the size of classes and many other details of school management both administrative and financial. Reading teachers are more and more becoming conscious of these growing demands for socializing education and are studying hard to learn the best ways for meeting the needs of the present situation. They need the sympathetic encouragement and support of the citizens. Many of the teachers are taking university extension courses and all are reading thoughtfully current educational literature and endeavoring to give Reading children the benefit of the best in educational practice.

Adapting Education to Individuals

In adjusting school facilities to meet the requirements of pupils as individuals, the work of Miss Whittemore, Director of Standards of Scholarship and Education Guidance, in co-operation with the principals and teachers has proven to be of great value. Through a careful study of each child's personality and an adjustment of school tasks to fit individual needs, the conscientious pupil is enabled to be uniformly successful in his efforts and gain thereby a constantly renewed interest and enthusiasm. Reading pupils are enjoying unique advantages in these matters of which further details will be found in Miss Whittemore's report.

Junior High School

The following sentence is taken from last year's report of the Principal of the Junior High School, Miss Alice Barrows: "In closing let me say that the school is doing today the best work in its history and that the fact is due to the earnest work and faithful co-operation of our splendid corps of teachers."

The passing of Miss Barrows after forty-three years of service as a teacher in Reading schools was an event of profound significance. A volume might be written upon it without exhausting the materials, for the story of her services to Reading, but Miss Barrows, as becomes a

true teacher, trained her pupils and her associate teachers so that they could carry on the good work without her when the necessity arose. For years to come the influence of Miss Barrows will continue to be a potent factor in Reading schools as it has been for so many years past. Much credit is due to Miss Page for the efficient manner in which she carried on the work of the Principal of the Junior High School during Miss Barrows' illness and completed the year after her death. Miss Page has been associated with Miss Barrows twenty-four years. Miss Hood, who had been with Miss Barrows twenty-one years, rendered valuable assistance to Miss Page in this work.

Mr. Raymond Blaisdell, the new Principal of the Junior High School, is a graduate of Bates College and has had experience as Principal of a High School and Superintendent of Schools of a district of several towns in Maine. Miss Page will continue to devote a part of her time to administrative work as Mr. Blaisdell's assistant.

The number of pupils in the Highland school has increased so much that many of the classes are far too large for the most effective work. In my report for 1918 a plan was outlined for relieving the Junior High School by providing a new building near Reading Square to take care of the fifth and sixth grades belonging to the Centre district and now occupying four rooms in the Highland building. All that was said in this report five years ago is still pertinent and some time a new building at the center must be constructed, but another project has been thought of that might relieve the Junior High School and put off the building at the center until the building of residences has been further developed and the future needs of the Centre district become more clearly apparent. The new project alluded to above consists of erecting a new building facing School street on the Highland School lot and connecting this new structure with the present Highland School by covered corridors. In this new building would be instructed the pupils constituting the Freshman class of the Senior High School. In other words, the Junior High School would be extended to three years and the Senior High School shortened to three years. This is known among educators as the 6-3-3 plan: Six years Elementary, three years Junior High School, and three years Senior High School. This is now regarded as the standard organization of the Junior High School throughout the United States. Many considerations in the local situation in Reading make such a change seem feasible and desirable.

The Senior High School has enrolled since September, 1923, over five hundred pupils. This number of pupils, according to the specifications for a standard high school issued by the Massachusetts Department of Education and the New England Association of Colleges and Secondary Schools, requires twenty full time teachers: that is, one teacher for every twenty-five pupils. There are at present available for class use just twenty rooms, large and small, in the High School, including laboratories, gymnasium, manual training room, library, and music supervisor's room,

but not counting the general assembly hall. It is evident that further growth in the present Senior High School can be accomplished only by exceeding the standard size of classes. As a matter of fact, the process has been going on for the past three years, as indicated in Mr. Atwood's report. Many of our High School classes are already over-size owing to the number of pupils increasing faster than the requisite number of teachers have been added. A similar situation exists in the Junior High School. Many of the classes contain between forty and fifty pupils instead of twenty-five as required by the best practice. This condition cannot be corrected by the obvious remedy of employing more teachers, unless we have more rooms in which the additional teachers may meet their classes. A suitable new building adjacent to the present Highland building would relieve the present Junior High School and, if a third year were added to the Junior High School in place of the present first year of the four-year High School, the Senior High School thus relieved of one class would probably have ample room in the present building for several years to come. Future growth of the Junior High School would be provided for by the removal a few years hence of the fifth and sixth grades to a new elementary school building at the center near Reading Square. As two or three years would be required to prepare plans and erect such an addition to the Highland School, immediate action in determining the policy to be pursued and starting the plan adopted would seem to be clearly indicated. I recommend that the School Committee give this matter early consideration.

Senior High School

Since the Public High School should provide for the needs of all its pupils, it must have a somewhat flexible program, but at the same time one that is definite and adequate for each of the purposes which it serves. These aims may be classified roughly for discussion under several heads: As, (1) preparation for entrance to higher educational institutions; namely: Colleges, Schools of Technology, Schools of Business Administration, and Higher Accounting, Normal Schools and Special Schools dealing with a great variety of subjects, such as pharmacy, dentistry, military, naval, or diplomatic service of the United States, applied mechanics, industrial chemistry, applied forms of agriculture; (2) preparation for service in business offices, more particularly as stenographers and typists, but also as bookkeepers and general office assistants and later as assistant agents in administrative or sales service; (3) preparation for mechanical vocations in manufacturing and the trades and for casual employment in cases where no special abilities or aptitudes have been discovered that serve as vocational objectives.

In regard to the first aim, preparation for entrance to higher institutions, I think pupils from Reading High School have entered, since I have been in Reading, all of the kinds of institutions mentioned above and undoubtedly others not mentioned. The last report of the College

Entrance Examination Board gives the number of pupils who have taken examination from each school during the past five years. In proportion to its size Reading High School stands very high on the list, having sent many more than Wakefield and Stoneham and as many as or more than some cities. In Mr. Atwood's report figures from a few schools are given. The whole list would make Reading appear in a favorable light in this respect. There have been among pupils from Reading High School some failures to pass college entrance examinations, but, when it is considered that in many college entrance board examinations fifty per cent or more of all the candidates fail to pass, it is not surprising that we should have occasionally some failures. This, however, is reassuring that in those cases where pupils from Reading High School have taken the examinations over in the fall, they have been able almost without exception to pass successfully. The success of our pupils in their college work after entrance has also been very encouraging. I think we have had more failures in college by a few pupils who did part of their preparatory work in other high schools than with the whole number who had all their preparation in Reading High School. It is true, however, that in the past three years the increased enrolment of pupils without a corresponding number of additional teachers has not only increased the size of college preparatory classes and decreased the time to be devoted to each individual but it has made necessary as in French, for example, the mixing of college and non-college groups. In such cases less stress must necessarily be given to college examinations. Another factor that materially affects the problem is the fact that more pupils are applying for entrance to the colleges than the colleges can take care of. As a result the college selects only those that appear most desirable. It is therefore increasingly difficult to gain entrance to any particular college. Higher standards of scholarship and personality are being required and probably this will be so increasingly for some time to come. We must not only maintain the standards of the past; we must raise them if we wish our pupils preferred in the selection of candidates for admission to higher institutions. This means that for college preparatory pupils at least we should not exceed the standard size class and should not mix college preparatory pupils with other groups having a different purpose than passing the College Entrance Examinations.

In regard to the second aim of the high school, the preparation for service in business offices, I feel that the Reading High School is functioning well and has gained an enviable reputation. This is partly due to the excellent course of training and partly due to the excellent character and personality of our pupils. We have been told frequently by employing agencies that customers ask especially for a person trained in Reading High School.

In regard to the third aim mentioned above, namely, preparation for mechanical vocations and the trades, Reading High School is doing a reasonable amount for a town of its size and can point with satisfaction

to many graduates during the past ten years who are making a success in these fields. The High School Agricultural Department (following the excellent work in home gardens carried on by the Junior High School) continues to be one of the leaders in the State in its own particular line. Reference to Mr. Sussmann's report will give many interesting details of the progress of this work in Reading The Manual Training work in the Junior High School and in the Senior High School, while not elaborate, is accomplishing a splendid service for Reading pupils in many ways—not only for those who will follow a mechanical trade as a vocation but also for the future surgeon who needs to develop a skilful handling of tools and for the hundred and one vocations in which a certain amount of mechanical dexterity is a necessary, if an incidental accomplishment. The manual training work connected with the Junior High School has been established for many years and needs no special word of appreciation at this time. The work in the Senior High School was established more recently by the present instructor, Mr. Boehm, and is now functioning in a thoroughly satisfactory way. The interest is keen, the work turned out is of a high order, and the pride of good workmanship and artistic skill is very commendable. Pupils in this department exhibit very satisfactory attitudes toward their work which indicate that they will be able to apply what they are learning to practical situations in later life.

There are many pupils in the schools whose general abilities do not warrant the expectation of success in entering college or in other situations requiring a high degree of mental power. It is necessary, however, for these pupils if they are to be contented, self-supporting, and happy to find some new field of service in which they are useful and feel that they are a success. To this end a great deal of attention is being paid to studying the personality of each pupil—not only his scholarship in particular branches but his intellectual powers as revealed by various formal tests and by the projects that he successfully performs. But far more subtle and significant than his intelligent quotient is the pupil's general attitude towards life, his moral outlook. This must be developed and perfected through the pupil's participation in the social relationships developed in the activities of the school itself. Here must be embodied in reality in the life of the school the practice of those sound principles of moral idealism and democracy-in-practice out of which our most hallowed institutions of the home, the church, the state, and the intricate fabric of our commercial and industrial life have been formed.

The following indictment of our civilization is from the New York Commercial:

"Are we a civilized people? This question may properly be asked after reading the figures given below and which cover the arrests from April, 1922, to April, 1923—12 months—for crimes committed in the city of St. Louis, with a population of 772,897, according to the census of 1920:

Robbery	11,267
Petty larceny	3,118
Assault and battery	2,068
Burglary	837
Grand larceny (over \$25)	832
Assault with intent to kill	506
Concealed weapons	432
Murder	415
Wife abandonment	279
Fraud	262
Burglary and larceny	209
Rape	191
Forgery	86
White slavery	74
Highway robbery	68
Embezzlement	57
Receiving stolen goods	56
Arson	86
Burglars' tools in possession	12

"Notice that only arrests are given. Many more crimes, for which there were no arrests, must have been committed. In no city is it possible to say that for every criminal deed an arrest followed.

"Besides the problem that the figures quoted predicate—and that problem is the problem of most other American cities of size—what public matter now being agitated surpasses it in importance or demands more careful consideration to the end that civilization in the United States be saved from complete destruction?"

The supreme problem of education is the moral problem and it is particularly acute at the age when youth is throwing off the parental tutelage characteristic of childhood and, sometimes a little too confidently, seeks to pursue an independent course. It is a situation that challenges the teacher's powers of understanding human personality and his ingenuity in appealing to the pupil and influencing him, by precept and by example, towards a right attitude in all the situations of life, in order that he may be able so far as his abilities permit to be "equal to the situation." An editorial writer recently wrote of Dr. Lyman Abbott: "He spent his life opening men's minds. He did not break them open by force. He opened them gently as the sun opens a flower—gently, irresistibly, and without damage. Lyman Abbott was a strong character but he had the rare quality of controlling his strength so that it never was applied in jerks. He applied a constant unrelenting pressure to the things he wished done and moved large bodies with little friction and less noise and he did this without wrenching or straining himself. He lived a long life and an active life of constant work until his eighty-seventh year. None of his vitality was consumed in the fires of anger, impatience, or envy. In the creed he practised these things did not belong."

It is the high privilege of the teachers of youth in like manner to open their minds not "by force" but "gently, irresistibly, and without damage as the sun opens a flower."

The Examination Question

The following editorial by "Uncle Dudley" of the Boston Globe touches upon such a vital matter in our school work that I am quoting it entire. Mr. Parker, also, in his report, as chairman deals with this fundamental aspect of the work of the schools. I commend both discussions to the serious attention of the teachers and all others concerned with formulating the policies of instruction in the schools. The ultimate test is the performance test—not what the pupil has memorized but what he can do, the work he can perform, the service he is able and willing to render. This is the ultimate goal of education.

"And you give your disciples not truth, but only the semblance of truth; they will be hearers of many things and will have learned nothing; they will appear to be omniscient and will generally know nothing; they will be tiresome company, having the show of wisdom without the reality."—Plato Phaedrus.

"The average school and college examination is a relic of barbarism which only survives amongst us because we are still looking for an adequate substitute. Meanwhile, Prof. Lowes of Harvard has grasped one dilemma-horn of this angry bull of pedagogy. One of his courses is on the English romantic poets of the 19th century, and students taking it were allowed to bring as many books as they pleased or could carry into the examination room with them.

"How would this constitute any examination?

"These romantic poets are significant as exponents of the thought of their time. In order to discuss them intelligently one would need to know the surrounding cultural, historical, and social conditions which went to form their minds. Now if the examination questions merely asked you to parrot back a futile array of dates, quotations, and biographical details, of course to take books into the examination rooms would defeat its object.

"But if the examination asked you to discuss the intellectual currents and cross-currents which swirled through the minds of these men and through the life of their time, then, of course, your books would be merely convenient reference works from which to draw illustrations for your thesis, and savers of time and energy from the acquisitive side of learning to be applied more profitably on the creative side.

"Creative, yes. But how creative?

"The authorized description of this new form of college examination says: 'The purpose . . . was to eliminate the "24-hour memory" that can pass an examination but retain nothing of the course in after years. Instead, it aimed to give the students an opportunity to show that they have **critical ability**, and that they **know where to look for information and how to apply it.**'

"This is, of course, a valiant and praiseworthy endeavor to escape from the factory-system standardized quantity production of college education thrust upon our great universities by the enormous growth of their enrollments. Any first-rate college teacher knows that under such conditions he is not teaching; he is merely, to use Dr. W. A. Neilson's phrase, 'dictating text-books,' and the first time Professor Bliss Perry found himself facing a lecture room of 500 boys his opening words were: 'Gentlemen, this is a calamity!'

"But even supposing Professor Lowes' plan does provide some exodus from this land of bondage for our large universities, we shall still be wandering in the wilderness unless the pilgrimage of education advances from being primarily an affair of critical and acquisitive scholarship to being one of creative activity.

"The words '**critical ability**' occur in the quotation above cited. They are significant. The dominant tone of Harvard College—of most colleges—is critical rather than creative. Of course this is to some extent necessarily the case. Boys of from 17 to 25 years are usually too inexperienced to embark on any very ambitious creative work, no matter how gifted they may be. College instruction, at its best, would tend to be a teaching of skill with tools combined with a careful fostering of whatsoever creative faculty could be found in the student. But to do this two-fold task requires men of exceptional caliber and personality.

"Prof. Baker who teaches the writing of play; Prof. Copeland, who teaches English composition, and Prof. Davison, who leads the glee club, are distinguished examples of this power. But they stand out at Harvard, or indeed anywhere, in contrast to the prevailing tone of critical scholarship. That this should be so is nothing strange. These creative personalities are as rare as they are precious (the late Prof. William James was one) and they do not domesticate or institutionalize any too easily. An institution which catches one (let alone a whole faculty of them) may count itself lucky. Aside from a certain group at Oxford, and from the recently disbanded one at Amherst; and aside from the dominant influence now existing at Reed and at Antioch Colleges, it would be hard for the present writer to name any institutions where the creative spirit predominates over the critical. It is not suggested that the critical spirit is entirely sterile. There is, of course, creative criticism. But it is secondary.

"This predominance of the critical over the creative has usually prevailed in academic institutions. They are places where the great creative work of the past is told about; but seldom where the great creative work of the present is done. Pioneer spirits are sturdy individualists. They shun institutionalization. The function of glorifying the creative triumphs of the past to the youth of the present is a vastly useful one. But the stimulation of creative activity in youth is a function much more vital. Many of the world's greatest creators passed through the universities of their time; but how many did their supreme work in or through institutions of learning?

"Now and again a vigorous creative personality finds its way into a college faculty, a secondary school or a public school, and life abundant for all who come in contact with it is the consequence. Ask any school-boy or schoolgirl to tell you about their various teachers, and see how quickly you get a description of one of these creative minds if the youngster has been lucky enough to have one for instructor.

"The final examination question is whether to have examinations of any kind. And the final answer to this examination question is that if the instruction is given by a sufficiently creative mind, the test of the student's ability becomes not how much he has acquired, but with how much excellence he can create."

Repairs of Buildings

The high cost of labor and materials has tended to put off as long as possible not only new construction but repairs and general up-keep of buildings and grounds. All our buildings have been erected for considerable periods and increasingly require repairs and alterations.

As the result of conversations between the representatives of the School Committee and the Town Finance Committee, sub-committees of the latter body were appointed last year to look over the several school buildings and report on needed repairs. Under the direction of Mr. Quimby of the sub-committee on School Houses and Property a list of special repairs with reliable estimates of cost have been prepared and presented to the Town Finance Committee together with the estimates for the annual School Budget. The estimated cost of these special repairs is about eleven thousand dollars. New heating and ventilation for the Center school was not included because accurate estimates of the cost could not be obtained without plans and specifications from a heating engineer.

With such a large amount of work needed it has been very difficult to keep the schools going without exceeding the amounts appropriated. During the past year we were compelled by the State Inspector of Buildings to install smoke screens in the High School which finally cost about a thousand dollars above the estimate in the budget owing to required changes in method of construction. Also increased coal consumption and increased price of coal caused the estimates for fuel to be exceeded by a considerable amount. On this account some bills remained unpaid at the close of the financial year. Except for the extra cost of the smoke screens and fuel above the estimates there would have been sufficient funds to pay all bills and keep the schools going to the close of the year. At the time the bills which remain unpaid were contracted there seemed to be a sufficient balance to warrant their contraction but later fixed charges and fuel used up the balance and left a deficit. If there had not been such an urgent need for repairs in order to keep the schools running more leeway would have been allowed. The appropriation should not be exceeded of course even if the schools have to be closed.

In Conclusion

I wish again to call attention to the several reports appended: The report of the Principal of the Senior High School, of the Agricultural Instructor, of the Principal of the Junior High School, of the Director of Standards and Guidance, of the Attendance Officer, of the School Nurse and Supervisors.

"The Health Work of the schools has been carried on with vigor during the past year and several important clinics held. Also, the pre-school clinic and dental clinic have been carried on by co-operating agencies during the year. Our thanks are due for the splendid co-operation of these assisting agencies including Parent-Teacher Associations, Red Cross, Christmas Seal Committee, Reading Woman's Club Health Committee and many individuals who have given unsparingly of time and money to help the children.

I thank the School Committee and teachers for their generous consideration and helpful co-operation.

Respectfully submitted,

ADELBERT L. SAFFORD, Superintendent.

REPORT OF PRINCIPAL OF SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL

Mr. Adelbert L. Safford, Superintendent.

Dear Sir:—I have the honor to submit to you my third annual report for the high school.

It seems to me that the outstanding feature of the high school is its remarkable growth. The enrollment at the beginning of the year was 505, the largest number of pupils ever registered in the school. In the three years the attendance has increased by over one hundred pupils, which is a rather rapid rate of growth.

I would like to call to your attention the fact that Reading has a high school population entirely out of proportion to the size of the town. The number of pupils in the high school exceeds, in many cases, the high school population of towns almost twice the size of Reading. This is oftentimes not considered when the question of costs is under discussion. With a small town population, Reading is carrying the expense of a high school equal in numbers to that of the high schools of larger towns. That so large a number of pupils attend the upper school is a very creditable and desirable thing for the town, beyond a doubt, and I hope that such a condition may prevail always, for a large high school attendance surely ought finally to result in a larger group of citizens who possess a high level of education.

It may be of some interest to note the population of some of the towns near Reading, as well as the high school attendance of these towns:

School	Population 1920	Attendance
Wakefield	13,025	586
Stoneham	7,873	350
Reading	7,439	455
Methuen	15,189	358
Watertown	21,457	526
Waltham	30,195	680
Melrose	18,204	677
Belmont	10,749	423

These figures are taken from the 1922-23 report of the Department of Education.

A feature which should be given some attention is that the growth of the school population has long since outdistanced a proportionate increase in the teaching force. If the fundamental fact of school administration, that a new teacher should be added for every twenty-five new pupils, is kept in mind, it can be seen readily that one added teacher for

one hundred new pupils hardly meets the situation. A growth of such proportions calls for four new teachers, and the lack of such additional teachers, no doubt, accounts for the growth in the number of classes in which there are more pupils than can be handled satisfactorily.

For purposes of comparison, I am offering a table in which is shown the number of pupils in the high schools and the number of full time teachers, as taken from the 1923 state department report:—

High School	Attendance	Teachers
Wakefield	586	28
Stoneham	350	14
Reading	455	17
Methuen	322	12
Watertown	526	22
Waltham	680	35
Melrose	677	33
Belmont	423	21

In 1921 there were but two classes with thirty pupils. This year there are eighteen classes with thirty or more pupils, and four classes of over forty pupils. I need not enlarge upon the fact that no teacher can obtain desired results with such swollen classes. These classes too often resolve themselves into periods requiring more time for discipline than for teaching. There is no remedy, in my mind, but an increase in the number of teachers.

It is sometimes asked as to how Reading compares with other schools in the number of pupils who try the college board examinations. In order to answer this I am offering a list taken from the last annual report of the college board:—

School	Attendance	Number
Wakefield	586	38
Stoneham	350	9
Reading	455	66
Methuen	322	23
Watertown	526	57
Waltham	680	66
Melrose	677	101
Medford	1308	69

It seems from this list that Reading is sending a very large number of pupils to take the college board examinations.

The tutoring plan which was put into effect last year has been enlarged and systematized this year, and is giving splendid results. Out of the number of pupils who have been aided by the tutoring over fifty percent have obtained passing grades, and in this way the efficiency of the school has been increased and the cost, due to failures, decreased. I have every reason to believe that with time and attention the tutoring plan will be one of the outstanding features of the high school.

I believe that the teaching force of the high school is doing work that is far above the average, and I would like to commend their work in calling it to your attention. At the last deficiency report there were one hundred and sixty (160) one subject failures. The number of subjects taken by the pupils is approximately two thousand. This leaves what I consider to be a very low rate of failure, very nearly eight percent. It seems to me that this is food for the few who feel that the school has a high rate of failure, and is a record which I believe is very praiseworthy.

It would perhaps be well to call your attention that in the last two years forty-six pupils have gone to college from the high school. While this number is, of course, a very small number, yet the present year seems to indicate that the increase in the number of college candidates will be large. Of course, it would be absurd to think of organizing 480 pupils in the school on a college basis of preparation in order to meet the needs of twenty or twenty-five pupils, yet the fact that the pupils who have gone to college have done so well shows that the welfare of this small group is not being neglected.

It ought to be of great interest to note that of the forty-six pupils who attended college in the last two years, only two failed to remain, and one of these has returned and is now successful, so that finally only one pupil out of forty-six has not made good. This seems to prove that if the pupil wishes to take advantage of the training offered in the high school he may fit himself properly for college. The school surely ought not to be held responsible for the boy who fails to take advantage of his opportunities—that is his loss, and for such a loss the school ought to be in no way held accountable.

The activities of the school are in a very healthy condition. The athletics are being very wisely and successfully guided, and the athletic account shows a balance at the present time. The Round-Up has the largest subscription list it has ever had, and this list includes very nearly two hundred alumni. The paper is in a very live condition. The debating activities are very successful and I see no reason why they should not continue to be so. There is no question but that the senior activities will be as well carried out as formerly, and the high school orchestra is beginning to become a considerable factor among the activities of the pupils. The student council is growing more and more to be a guiding medium for a bigger and better school spirit, and it exercises a considerable influence over the traffic and fire squads.

It is almost imperative that something be done toward increasing the seating capacity of the gymnasium. When about five hundred pupils attempt to occupy a space built for two hundred it produces a milling that is not good for the moral or physical well-being of the pupils, and in this way the good of the athletics are almost negatived. I recommend this situation very earnestly to your attention, with the hope that it may be remedied in the near future.

It seems necessary also to consider the departmentalizing of the mathematics. At the present time there are four teachers handling this work and I believe it would add to the efficiency of the school if these subjects could be organized along more closely co-ordinated lines. I hope that this may be done next year.

The growth of the work in office practise is interesting. The school was able to place about twenty girls in desirable positions, and had calls for more of its graduates, but these calls could not be filled. That there should be such a demand for the graduates of the high school who have been trained in commercial work, surely speaks well for the teachers of the business subjects. While, in general, it is difficult to carry on the work of the office training class because of the conditions under which the pupils must work, yet the results obtained are reward enough for the trouble and inconveniences that arise in the carrying out of the plans. I believe Reading High School is developing a very high reputation for its work in the commercial subjects.

Once more, may I call to your attention that I believe the teachers of the high school are doing a very splendid piece of work, both in the class room and in the sharing of the responsibilities of the student activities. If the true test of a good teacher is the result that is obtained from mediocre material, then I would like especially to commend some of the teachers who obtain splendid results with large classes of little better than average minds.

Thanking you for your helpful and sympathetic co-operation, as well as your advice in many matters connected with the school, I am,

Sincerely,

E. V. ATWOOD, Principal.

REPORT OF INSTRUCTOR OF AGRICULTURE

Mr. Adelbert L. Safford,
 Superintendent of Schools,
 Reading, Massachusetts.

Dear Sir:—Complying with your request I herewith submit my annual report. When the course in Agriculture was introduced some eight years ago, those who had studied the situation saw a crying need for more trained farmers. The war proved completely that their views were correct, just as it had been in the case of trade training. We need more food producers. Industry is a very strong competitor of Agriculture and one hope for overcoming a too large handicap in this direction is to provide training for those boys and girls interested in and suited for life on the farm.

Between 1910 and 1920 sixteen per cent was added to the population of the United States. At this rate the population doubles in forty-four (44) years. Thus in 1964 at the present rate of increase our population will be about two hundred and fourteen million, (214,000,000.). According to Professor East of Harvard College, men of the present generation will see the United States peopled beyond the maximum agricultural possibilities, if and when the above population number is reached: quoting Professor East on this subject. "We have been regaling ourselves by dreaming about agricultural miracles, which would set everything right. Let us awaken to realities, and examine the old art of agriculture as we actually find it. After all, the brightest ray of hope for an increasing return per unit area is from efficient application of the best methods of crop rotation, tillage, protection, harvesting and marketing, made possible by increasing the amount of man-power used. There is no royal road to raising turnips."

"From the statistical results coming out of the mill we reach five conclusions:

1. The people in the United States revelled in cheap food in the past because low-priced land was so plentiful they could be satisfied with whatever returns were obtained by the hasty inefficient methods of culture made possible by the powerful tools of industry.

2. The reserve of virgin soil approached an end in quantity, or, what amounts to the same thing, decreased markedly in quality between 1890 and 1900. Since that time there have been diminishing returns in agriculture in the sense that a given amount of capital and of labor has produced constantly less and less.

3. Better methods of agriculture will allow enhanced production per unit area amounting to at least 50 per cent over the current amount, but this will only come about through an increased use of man-power.

4. All increase will be temporary, and even current production cannot be maintained, unless the essential elements of soil fertility are conserved by every method possible.

5. If comfort and satisfaction on the farm are not equivalent on the average to what is obtained in other walks of life, if agriculture is to be at the mercy of powerful industrial labor-unions directed by narrow, scheming opportunists, or stifled by the short-sighted greed of capital this machine-made civilization of ours will shortly burst, like a tree which is rotten at the heart."

Professor East's theory then, is that in 1964 we will be facing a tremendous food shortage such as has been experienced in Europe and Asia. If this is only one half correct it is plain to see that the time to act in the direction of a more adequate food supply is now while we yet have time. To meet this situation we must train the coming generation to become producers and conservers of all natural resources, especially minerals, forests and foods. Our boys of today who will be the men of tomorrow must learn to take a business-like technical interest in farming. Good agricultural theory grounded in experiment is the best guide and control of practice in agriculture. This theory puts a certain definite quantity and quality of technical skill into the minds and bodies of our youths.

Professor Haskell, Director of the Massachusetts Experiment Station, cites the following changes in Massachusetts Agriculture over a thirty year period:

1. Fewer farmers and fewer farms.
2. Relative prosperity replaces grinding poverty.
3. Machinery used to a much greater degree than was thought possible.
4. Farming becoming more difficult.
 - a. Market standards higher.
Illustration: Unregulated milk production of past years, compared to the present.
 - b. Fertility problems more difficult.
 - c. Insect enemies and plant and animal diseases increased in numbers.
 - d. Competition with the factory has brought about a materially shorter working day (opinion only).

Net results: A premium on **brains** rather than **brawn**, as compared to the earlier agriculture.

Due to these changing demands of society upon it, Agriculture has become a very desirable and remunerative vocation and one into which it is well to induce our best minds. A community must either pay for

the cost of training labor or pay the much greater cost of inefficiency of labor. I here include Mr. Herbert Hoover's letter to Mr. J. C. Wright, Director of the Federal Board of Vocational Education.

Dr. Mr. Wright:—

My attention has been called to comments in the press on the increasing cost of education, and more particularly of vocational education in our public schools. Expenditures in the States last year under the Federal Vocational Education Act amounted to less than \$15,000,000, or approximately 15 cents per capita. Of this amount States and local communities contributed in round numbers \$11,000,000, and the Federal Government \$4,000,000. Thus the States and local communities contributed 11 cents and the Federal Government 4 cents per capita of population for the promotion of vocational education under this act. This cost can not be regarded as constituting a serious financial burden upon the community. It is approximately the cost of a medium sized battleship. Certain indirect costs of this form of education can not be accurately estimated, but in the aggregate they are relatively to our wealth and population insignificant. If vocational education is worth while, certainly as a nation we can afford the price of such education. Our only concern is to know that it is worth while. If it is, expenditure on account of such education is in the nature of an investment which will yield large dividends from year to year through the progressive increase of labor skill and industrial efficiency.

As a member of the Federal Board for Vocational Education, I have for the past two years been brought into close contact with those who are administering the Federal Vocational Education Act, providing for co-operation of the Federal Government with the States in the promotion of vocational education in our public schools.

The essential purpose of this act is to extend public school education to provide for the needs of our youth who do not enter our higher technical and professional educational institutions. We are accustomed to large expenditures for the maintenance of these higher educational institutions. In some of our State universities the cost of providing education for the professions runs well into the thousands of dollars per student graduated. Vocational training for the commoner wage earning pursuits and skilled trades is equally as essential as is training for the professions. The humblest worker equally with the youth who proposes to enter the professions, has a right to the sort of training he needs for the occupation by which he proposes to earn his livelihood and support his family, and through which he will render his service to the community in getting the community's work done. For him the cost of vocational training is relatively small, and is in fact a cost in appearance only since the result of his training will be increase in efficiency and economy in production during the life period of his economic productivity.

We in this country believe that education in general pays for itself and is worth while, and if this is true of any sort of education it is certainly true of vocational education—that it pays for itself. That is the acid test, particularly of vocational education—that it shall pay for itself. If it does not, it is not vocational education at all.

Men of affairs the country over are being impressed with the fact that the cost of training labor in the job is one of the great industrial costs, but they know that the cost of inefficiency and lack of training is much greater, and that labor must be trained whatever the cost. If they or the community do not provide such training they can not compete with the foreign producer whose labor is vocationally trained at public expense, nor can we as a nation adequately supply our own needs

for the product of labor, if we neglect to provide for the training of labor.

The cost of providing this training is just as properly a charge upon the public revenue as any other form of education. In the interests of labor itself such training can not be devolved upon the employer. Organized labor is perfectly right in insisting that vocational education shall be under public supervision and control, so that the interests and welfare of the worker as well as of the employer will be taken fairly into account. The cost of such training certainly should not be put upon the individual worker unless we are prepared to abandon our traditional policy of providing free education and equality of opportunity for our youth. We can not in fairness continue to provide specialized education free to the few who propose to enter the professions, while denying education to the many for the commoner vocations.

A community must pay either for the cost of training labor or for the much greater cost of inefficiency of labor, and inefficiency of labor means inevitably general industrial and commercial inefficiency.

Further it may be noted that in so far as the products of American labor come into competition with the products of foreign labor, either in our domestic market or in foreign markets, unemployment for American labor is bound to develop in proportion as foreign labor is better trained and more efficient. No American employer can hold his markets and continue to employ labor, if his labor is relatively unskilled or if his costs for training labor greatly exceed those of his foreign competitors.

Every important foreign country, European and American, is providing for the vocational training of its citizens. Some of these countries are developing programs which contemplate very large expenditures of public money. They are relying in a large measure upon vocational training in their effort to master the commerce of the world in competition with the United States. Several of these countries have during the past two years sent delegations to this country to investigate and report upon our system of vocational education. Such delegations have come also from Japan, China, India, and Australia.

Can we expect to maintain our commercial standing in the world's markets if we neglect to train our labor, and if we permit other countries to take over the competitive advantages that superior vocational training will give them?

Having taken the lead in vocational education, we certainly shall not now permit ourselves to slip back because of a notion of false economy. I have been thinking particularly of the service rendered by vocational education in the broad fields of industry and commerce, but the social and economic value of such education is of course equally great in other fields. There is, in fact no better economy than the economy of adequate training for the pursuits of agriculture, commerce, industry, and the home. Our youth must enter into these pursuits, and it is on all counts in the public interest that they be well trained for them.

To provide such training is clearly a public responsibility. Education in general, including vocational education for the youth, is Democracy's most important business. Democracy in education means that in the field of education opportunity shall be extended equally to all—to give all a fair start. This is the educational ideal inspiring those who are administering the Federal Vocational Education Act; it is the ideal which inspired Congress in passing the Act; and it is traditionally the ideal of education in our democracy.

Yours faithfully,

(Signed) HERBERT HOOVER

Due progress has been made in the Reading department as evidenced by the financial statement of the returns from actual production on home projects by the students in Agriculture. Each year we are learning how to get greater and more lasting returns from labor and money spent on these home projects. The importance of this sort of work which correlates earning and learning can hardly be overestimated. During the four years of the course the student in agriculture is in actual worldly contact with conditions as he will find them upon graduating. He will not step from a possibly theoretical class room agriculture to a seriously real and practical agriculture involving perhaps losses of time and money but he will simply spread out from a producing career limited chiefly by the time element into a broader and fuller service which will involve his entire working time. Below is given a summary of the financial statement as returned to the State Board of Education.

Number completing project	24
Costs of Materials involved	\$4,486.88
Cost of pupil labor	3,053.50
Market value of products produced	7,638.08
Total earnings	10,691.60
Average production per pupil	445.48

Based on the cost of the course it will be noticed that the pupils earned over two dollars for every dollar spent for instruction. The average return throughout the United States for courses such as given here at the High Schools is one dollar for every dollar spent for instruction. Efficiency in production based on good technique and good theory accounts for this high production.

Poultry formed the back-bone of our project work. Reading is an excellent poultry center and we make the production of eggs one of our strong courses.

The ex-service men continue to be with us and I am pleased to report that they are making satisfactory progress. Several of the men are making outstanding successes of their project work. They show keen interest and their attendance is very good.

We are attempting to make our farm visits more effective by requiring each student to keep a diary. In this daily record are included such items as (a) What did I do today? (b) What new thing did I do today? (c) What did I notice today? (d) What did I learn today? By requiring the students to keep this diary faithfully and including other items such as expenditures and receipts and also labor hours the instructors can keep very well posted on the progress and work of the student during the summer. These diaries are checked up every week or ten days when the instructor makes his farm visits.

A new system of checking financial returns on blanks furnished by the State Department is in use. This system enables the instructors to keep a weekly financial record on every project.

We hope during this coming spring to introduce a new unit course in Dairy Bacteriology. Most of the necessary equipment is now on hand and the course will not require any material outlay. It is our plan to serve the Reading public in checking up bacteria in the Reading milk supply, as well as to give the boys instruction in this very important branch of dairying. This course will be carried on in co-operation with the School Nurse.

This year as in the past the people of Reading have been very kind in allowing us to use their farms, trees, and animals as demonstration work shops.

Thanking you for your hearty co-operation and support, I am

Yours very truly,

RUDOLF SUSSMANN, Agricultural Instructor

REPORT OF PRINCIPAL OF JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL

To Mr. Adelbert L. Safford, Superintendent of Schools.

Dear Sir:—The first thing that comes to my mind as I submit this report is the splendid reception which I have received on all sides. Never before have I entered a community in which the spirit of friendliness and co-operation was more whole-hearted and universal. Such an environment is very inspiring to a public servant.

"Education is the process by which the individual comes into continually increasing possession of himself and his powers through continually increasing participation in the race achievement." This statement suggests certain changing conceptions relative to the educative process which are especially pertinent to the Junior High School. We no longer think of the child and the curriculum as either being widely separated or opposed to each other. They are rather to be identified together but as representing different degrees of progress in the same process. The achievements of the human race have been and always will be a result of experience based upon past experience and leading into further experience. The child, which at birth is very immature represents certain possibilities of passing through the same experiences which the race has already passed through. It is the job of the school therefore, with the teacher as the directing agency to supply the necessary medium and stimuli in which, and as a result of which, the child experiences and finds satisfying solutions to **felt needs**, just as the race did before him.

The progress of race achievement has been to a certain extent a process of trial and error, and the results have not always been in accordance with social welfare. It is wise therefore that the school should profit by the experiences of the race and arrange its curriculum in accordance with approved aims physically, intellectually, morally, and socially. Furthermore, lack of time and the difference in inherited abilities of the individual would not permit each child to attain worth while progress in all lines of human achievement. It is primarily the challenge of that need that largely justifies the Junior High School movement. I do not wish to be misunderstood relative to the above statement. I am aware that the Junior High School was originally organized for the sole purpose of more quickly and effectively preparing pupils for the Senior High School. I am also aware that the Junior High School is still in the experimental state, perhaps, as regards some of its more definite aims and purposes. But educators are agreed, I think, upon the basic principle—namely, that following the integrating period of the element-

ary school, an attempt should be made to discover that line of work which each child is best adapted to pursue with greatest success and satisfaction to himself and to society.

Perhaps the more universally accepted conceptions of the Junior High School, as resulting from discussion and experimentation, are set forth as follows by Professor Briggs, of Columbia University: "First, that it should afford an earlier beginning of a more or less conventional secondary education; second, that it should furnish trade training for those who will soon enter work; and third, that it should explore the interests, aptitudes, and capabilities of pupils and start each upon studies leading to a suitable goal."

A study of the Reading Junior High program of studies, as printed in Miss Barrow's report of 1920, shows that our school has been organized in accordance with the above conceptions in so far as the size and the facilities of the school would permit. The academic course is formulated to meet the needs of those pupils whom intelligence and achievement tests, together with home conditions, point toward college; the commercial, manual training, and home-making courses explore the interests and abilities, and lay the foundation for continuation work along these lines. The courses are so organized that the pupil, upon entering the Senior High School, may change courses, if conditions warrant, with comparative ease and without a great deal of lost time. At the same time, these courses give a much better preparation for citizenship than formerly to those who will drop out of school in the near future. Through all these courses, we find a continuation from the elementary school of those subjects, such as the social sciences, drawing, art, and music, which have an integrating value because of the facts, ideals, and appreciations which are developed.

I wish to call your attention to the "Reading Home Making School" which is housed at the Grouard House. This school offers courses in Domestic Science, Sewing, and Mother-Craft. The home-making school is significant because of the fact that it not only teaches future home-makers how to cook, to sew, and how to care for a home, but it provides the opportunity for the girls to actually do these things under real home conditions which are as free as possible from the artificiality of the average laboratory. This school is, I believe, an excellent illustration of an effort to organize our schools more in accordance with actual life conditions, to the end that our boys and girls may measure up more nearly to the requirements of successful living.

I am pleased to report that the Highland School has nearly completed the purchase of an Acme S. V. E. Moving Picture Machine. This machine is licensed for use with standard width non-inflammable films, and is considered the best available for school purposes. Educators are just beginning to realize the possible value of motion pictures in school work, largely through the efforts of the "Society for Visual Education." A great many films are already available and more are being prepared on

geography, history, literature, and health. I believe that these kinds of pictures will not only supplement the text-books in teaching the above subjects, but will be of immeasurable worth in establishing worthy ideals, attitudes, and appreciations. These are the factors, by the way, which function most strongly beyond the school in determining adult behavior.

Some changes have been made this year in the management of the school lunch. The food is prepared as formerly at the "Home Making School", as a part of the work in domestic science. Lack of space makes it necessary to serve the lunch in the corridor at the Highland School. This is not wholly desirable but seems to be the best arrangement that can be made at present. The installation of an electric dish-washing machine last Fall, which was purchased from the lunch account funds, and the building of closets makes it possible now to wash and store all dishes at the Highland School. This results in a big saving in time and effort, as formerly all dishes were washed and housed at the Grouard House. In the past, the money received from food furnished to the lunch from the Grouard House has been turned into the Town Treasury. The town in return supplied all materials used in connection with the lunch except soups, cocoa and milk. This year, however, the raw materials for food to be used in the lunch has been furnished by the lunch and the money has been credited to the lunch account for the purchase of more materials to be used in the preparation of the lunch. I am glad to report that the quality of the lunch is proving satisfactory and that it is entirely self-supporting. This department is personally supervised by the Assistant Principal, Miss Page, who is entitled to a great deal of credit for her work.

In accordance with an established custom, the senior class each year presents the School with a gift as a parting testimonial of gratitude and good will. The Class of 1923 presented the School with a portrait painting of their Principal, Miss Barrows. The portrait, which was painted by Mr. Lyman E. Fancy, of the Faculty of the Junior High School, very appropriately hangs in the Principal's office as a glowing tribute both to the Class of 1923 and to the memory of Miss Barrows.

Permit me to mention some of the more pressing needs of the Junior High School. In last year's report, attention was called to an increase in enrollment which has been quite marked during the past three years. This increase results from a growth of population which is significant because of its stability and freedom from any fluctuating elements characteristic of a more highly industrial community. I believe that any plans that are made for the future of the schools should be made on the courage and conviction that Reading is destined to grow steadily. The character of her citizens confirms that belief.

This growth of forty-six pupils in the enrollment at the Junior High School between 1920 and 1923 has resulted in a congested condition which is very acute. We have six regular class rooms originally intended for the Junior High School Department. The problem of even seating the three hun-

dred enrolled pupils this year has been solved by filling those six rooms beyond their normal seating capacity and, as last year, by using the only other available room in the building which is located on the second floor. This room, by the way, should be used as an opportunity room for the benefit of pupils who need special coaching in some of their work. Classes are being conducted in the assembly hall, corridors, and in the fifth and sixth grade rooms during the noon recess. The physical training classes are compelled to meet in the boys' basement for lack of a more suitable place. The School Nurse is forced to carry on her work in the teacher's rest room.

Lack of space necessitates large classes, some of which run as high as forty-five pupils. Under such conditions it is impossible for a teacher to adapt her work successfully to the individual needs of the pupils and to give each pupil a fair deal. More failures may be attributed to this cause than to any other factor. We are very much in need of an additional teacher to spend her entire time working with those pupils who need special coaching.

In closing, I wish to express my appreciation of the splendid co-operation which I have received from the teaching corps. They are earnest, conscientious workers. My relationship with each teacher has been very pleasant.

Respectfully submitted,

RAYMOND W. BLAISDELL.

REPORT ON STANDARDS AND GUIDANCE

Mr. Adelbert L. Safford,
Supt. of Schools, Reading, Mass.

Dear Sir:—I herewith submit, for your consideration and approval, the fourth annual report of my work in "Standards and Guidance." With your wise supervision of the work I have kept to the main objectives of my work as outlined in the Town Report of 1920.

The first step was to become personally acquainted with the pupils themselves. This has been a real pleasure. Not only do I know all the boys and girls in school today from the first grade through the Junior High School and those who have gone to High School during those four (4) years but it has also been delightful to have conferences with parents and by so doing to make a closer bond between the home, the parent, the child, the teacher and myself, and to bring about the better understanding of our common problem.

Our common problem as I quoted last year is "to make the individual pupil equal to the task he is trying to escape or so modify the task that he can perform it, or give him another which he can do with satisfaction." This is "our job" on the first day of each new year and we begin in the first grades on that very first day of the school life of the child.

In the first year, in the first grade of Primary we have grouped the children according to their mental age. This has essentially reduced non-promotion from 33% to a minimum of twenty-four (24) pupils for all the first grades of Reading or to 13%. Non-promotions above the first grade have decreased because we illuminate the word SUCCESS and are always trying to blot out that other word FAILURE.

Miss Taylor with her class, the Pre-Primary, adjusts the work individually, as far as possible, with forty-two (42) pupils, so a wonderful preparation is actually made for the real work of the first grade the second year. Each year many of her class go on and cope successfully with the work of the second grade. Aside from the fact of the economic gain of twenty-one per cent (21%) in non-promotion by grouping the children carefully the very first month of the very first school year there is no sense of failure or unhappiness in the mind of the parent and child for the child is happy in what he is doing and succeeds in performing that task.

Each year you have added equipment for the development of the boys and girls. The children learn to take care of this constructive material, therefore we are fortunate in Reading. We can teach because

we have books, supplies and materials with which to teach. Our books for the study of Reading have been supplemented from time to time. Silent reading is being taught more and more each year in each grade.

Here is a record of actual accomplishment in one of our First grades, showing the work of three successive years 1920-21-22 and of three years previous, 1919-1918-1917. This record happened to have been kept by the teacher herself and it reveals the possibilities of SUCCESS when you get the right start. The right start in this case is careful "homogenous" grouping according to mental age.

Year	First Grade Reading		
	A Div.	B Div.	C Div.
1917	8	5	3 Books read
1918	6	4	No C Div.
1919	10	8	5 Books read

Dearborn Group Tests Used in 1920			
1920	10	9	6
1921	13	11	10
1922	12	10	10
1923 Sept.	3	3	0 to Jan. 1924

Beyond the first grade our per cent of non-promotion is very low. Here and there in the grades we have pupils who profit exceeding much by the repeating of his grade. The parent realizes this need as much as the teacher or I. The child when he finds himself doing the grade work over, feels a keen satisfaction in finding that he can do the work well with the upper half of the class.

In the four years of my work the pupils who have won a double promotion have exceeded the number of those who "stay back".

This does not mean that all pupils promoted are either A or B class. There are, in each class, some C's who because of age and improvement in work should be given the opportunity of advancement. These same pupils usually respond to the stimulus of advancement and many times show greater improvement the succeeding year than those of the upper groups.

Miss Alda Parker in the opportunity class now, in four years has had seventy (70) children in her room. To many of these seventy children school would never have meant much because each child's need was very special. Miss Parker always helps the child find himself and "fits the work to the child" rather than "the child to the work". Last June, 13 of the 16 pupils in her room were promoted to a regular grade. They are at the writing of this report doing well in the grade where they are now placed.

The age-grade table for this year shows we have still boys and girls above the fourth grade who ought to be given more attention by being in another Opportunity Room. They are over age for the grade where

they are, handicapped by a poor start, by sickness, by moving about from one place to another, and by lack of school advantages. We teachers try to adjust and help them but each pupil needs much special individual attention. Only a special class room would solve each individual problem. Such a class might be formed with profit in connection with the Highland School.

The above report not only reveals the satisfaction which must come to the boys and girls of our school as they successfully progress each year from grade to grade. It also reveals the economic side the lack of wastage in time and energy to the child and expense to the town.

This table indicates the growth of the school population below High School since 1920. It also indicates our present congested condition from first grade to High School at the center of the town and a steadily increasing registration at the Chestnut Hill School even after the elimination of one grade,—the 6th now sent to the Highland School.

Yr.	Union	Center	High- Chest.		Prospect	Lowell	Jr High	Totals
			land	Hill				Grades 1-6
1920	172	236	189	43	172	150	260	962
1921	160	235	178	56	171	156	290	956
1922	166	236	184	62	177	123	302	948
1923	181	251	188	63	148	127	309	958

Conditions as regards number are quite ideal today in both the Lowell Street and Prospect Street Schools. The reason for the congestion in the center of the town is the incoming of many children new to Reading. Compare if you will this excerpt from my report of last year:—

"From Sept. 11 to Dec. 31 we have the following record, Grades 1-6: Enrolled 494 boys; 432 girls; total, 926. Absent Sept. 11, 17; entered later. Entered Reading School from out of town, 100. Left Reading Schools, 46. Transfers within the town (district to district), 36."

With this report for 1923:

"From Sept. 11 to Dec. 31, 1923, we have the following record, Grades 1-6: Enrolled, 497 boys; 461 girls; total, 958. Absent Sept. 10, 13; entered later. Entered Reading schools from out of town, 112. These were mainly in the center, 91. Left Reading schools by leaving town, 41. Transfers within the town (district to district), 19."

Beginning September, 1924, a provision will be necessary to relieve this over-crowded condition. All along the line from first grade through sixth grades and in Junior High there is congestion. Fifty pupils have been registerer in each sixth grade of the Highland School. Hardly less than that figure are in each room of the Union Street, Center, and Fifth grades, Highland School.

We have all tried to see that each one of the 112 newcomers is helpfully and carefully adjusted to his work. We find that our grades are up to any standards in other towns from which pupils come to us.

When we learn of the grade or placing of one of our Reading boys or girls who has left town, we find that he not only has kept the grade which he had in our schools but has often moved on a grade.

This statement brings me to the third step in my work,—the use of scientific tests and scales for judging the work of the school. As I have explained earlier, testing begins in the first year. The big reason for testing is to gain a better understanding of the child's capabilities.

From first grade to Junior High School, Arithmetic Progress tests were given, in co-operation with the Harvard Graduate School of Education. The results of these tests revealed regular progress each year, grade by grade throughout our whole system.

Our Spelling tests give stimulating effect in that subject and offer regular progress and ever-increasing interest.

On January 23, 1924, all the classes below High School are to enter at the same hour into a State Wide Spelling Contest in co-operation with the School of Education, Boston University. A report of results will be given later.

Again, in Arithmetic the Courtiss Standard Tests give each class each year a progressive review of the four fundamental processes. Two months daily use of these tests shows an increase of 50% gain for some of the classes in Speed and Accuracy. We use these tests in Grades 4, 5 and 6.

More and more each year we are developing the problem side of Arithmetic adapting the problem to the every-day need of the individual. Thought reading or Silent Reading claims more and more of our time each succeeding year. So the THREE R's are foremost in the school curriculum of today.

During each year of my work I have tried to work out some problem of especial value to our boys and girls. Last summer a very careful study was made of the present Freshman class of the High School. Each student entering from Junior High was qualified for entrance by age, record of school work, record in scientific achievement tests for English, Science, History, Arithmetic made for high school entrance, by knowledge of special abilities and disabilities and by intelligence test, or test of mental ability.

The class made an excellent record, which confirms excellent native ability and good progressive, developmental teaching. The report reflected great credit upon their teachers in the Junior High School and the Elementary grades.

In the four years of my work in the schools you have made especial effort to unify and complete the equipment for each grade and room of each building. The teachers are most helpful by suggesting what they

would like best for their teaching. While we have uniformity, there is much individuality on the part of every teacher.

In our games, in the health work of Miss Brown, in music and in art, in our co-operation with the public library, and in our working together we see the "Men and Women of Tomorrow" in the boys and girls of today.

My work has been a pleasure under your supervision with the co-operation of the splendid corps of teachers the attitude of both parents and children for the fullness of true education in right living.

Respectfully submitted,

FANNIE C. WHITTEMORE,

Standards and Guidance.

December 31, 1923.

REPORT OF SUPERVISOR OF DRAWING

Mr. Adelbert L. Safford, Superintendent of Schools,
Reading, Mass.

Dear Sir:—

I herewith submit my second annual report of the Drawing Department.

The general outline which was given last year was followed this year with few changes but perhaps with a bigger, broader idea behind it. The study of art is a many-sided subject which involves mind, eye, hand, skill and judgment. The power to draw correctly is of supreme value in the art course because it is the basis for all work, aesthetic and mechanical. When the students themselves realize this half the problem is solved. This is what we have tried to "get over" to the students in the past year and we feel that results have been accomplished. More interest and better work was obtained. There are many, many children in Reading who draw very well; there are others who do not draw so well. Some of them may be interested in the mechanical work, others in the same group in the theory of color and design. Then there are always some, happily few in number, who feel that the work is a matter of duty and drudgery.

The standard of work has been raised by not permitting vagueness of drawing so that the pupils do not learn to associate the idea of drawing with vagueness and a floating notion about "art." The expectation of immediate result has been subordinated to accuracy. We have encouraged better work and stimulated interest by giving more time to instructions and discussions and less time to actual drawing, in order to chase away any fears or uncertainties about the work to be done. An easy mind, a relaxed body, and a clear understanding of the instructions insure the best work. Then again, many of the teachers save the best work of the pupils and by exhibiting these examples to the new classes before a lesson arouse interest and instill a feeling of competition. Invariably better work is done, thereby raising the standard.

At Thanksgiving time an illustrated talk on "Early Indian Art" was given in many of the grades, instead of the usual drawing connected with the story of the Pilgrims. The classes showed unusual enthusiasm and literally begged to be allowed to reproduce some of the Indian designs which were shown to them. They were given the opportunity and later added their bits of design to their November book covers. The work was well done with that free and spontaneous effort for which we are striving. The system is elastic, with a freedom for experiment, and an opportunity for advancement outside the "beaten path". Arrangements are being made

whereby unusual talent may be sifted and students may secure an opportunity to develop their technical ability to the highest point. There are many museums, art galleries, lectures, exhibitions, industrial and artistic, which are important factors in training artistic taste. We hope, in spite of distance, to get the children to see them. Last spring, on Saturdays, several visits were conducted to the Boston Art Museum.

On one occasion, a group of Junior High School pupils with Miss Emerson journeyed to the museum in the forenoon, ate their lunches which they carried with them in a shady place in the Fenway, and in the afternoon visited the Natural History Rooms. It was a large, pleasant party and no doubt the success of it was due to the influence of Miss Emerson's Junior High School Art Club. Other groups were conducted to the Fogg Museum at Harvard. By the popularity of these excursions in the High School we foresee many of them in the future. The students do not copy but are instructed to make themselves acquainted with the works of art and with the historic styles of certain ages. They are urged to catch the spirit of the ornament of each period.

In spite of the short drawing periods in the High School, the pupils have done well. Several fine posters were designed and painted last year in connection with the school activities. The linoleum cuts made at Xmas time proved intensely interesting. We are forming a camera campaign in connection with our landscape composition course. The majority of boys and girls possess a camera and admit that they spoil many films. "More successful pictures and less unsuccessful ones" is our slogan. We are collecting snapshots and will find out through study, why they are good or bad. An exhibition in connection with this campaign will be held in the High School or the Reading Library later in the year. The classes are growing larger in number every year in the High School and the pupils are asking for extra work and outside reading. This spirit is encouraging.

I wish to thank all the teachers and especially my assistant, Miss Emerson, for their interest and co-operation and my heartiest thanks to you, Mr. Safford, for your full support.

Respectfully submitted,

J. ADELAIDE LAHAISE, Drawing Instructor.

REPORT OF ATTENDANCE OFFICER

Mr. Adelbert L. Safford,
Supt. of Schools, Reading, Mass.

Dear Sir:—In response to your request, I am submitting for your approval my report for the year ending December 31, 1923. Without the assistance rendered by you and your car, it would have been impossible to cover the territory and make the number of calls which have been made this year. Taking a taxi is impracticable for this work and would be a great expense to the town. As stated in last year's report, the School Nurse and the Attendance Officer could use jointly a Ford of any vintage, providing it would go, and to the advantage of both branches of service. I also wish to acknowledge the hearty co-operation of our principals and teachers, as well as that of the parents of the majority of children whose attendance has been investigated.

Attendance

In all there have been 200 cases of irregularity reported by teachers and others. Of these cases 160 have required personal calls, 70 of these being what I may call "repeaters" or cases where I have had to make more than one call. About 40 letters have been written by me regarding children. Six cases have been referred to outside agencies, such as the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children, The Society for the Care of Girls, etc. No cases have this year been taken to court.

Reasons for Irregularity

Most people in Reading live so comfortably that they cannot realize the conditions in some homes of this town. In a number of cases, children have so much to contend with in the filthy and uncomfortable homes they are in that the wonder is they have any ambition at all, not that they are somewhat irregular in attendance. Most of these fathers and mothers were not born in the United States, have had little schooling themselves, and know little about sanitary living or education beyond the rudiments. They can find only the oldest and most uncomfortable houses to live in, due to housing conditions which are general at this time, and also to the fact that with a large family of children a man and woman find they are unwelcome in a desirable tenement. Conditions such as these render null and void nearly all that the schools and other welfare agencies are trying to do for their children. **Nothing** is more important for children than a right start in clean, comfortable homes, among sensible people who realize the great value of mental and physical well-being. Very rarely do we find delinquency of any kind among children from homes where living condi-

tions are good. I feel that every child has a right to be kept clean, well fed, and comfortably clothed, with his mind calm and peaceful because of harmonious home conditions. Only then can he do his best at school.

In some cases children have so much to do at home that the school work suffers, but, whether to the credit of Reading or not, this is true in only a few cases. Most children everywhere today have too little to do at home.

There is another serious cause contributing to irregularity and that is a lack of clothing in some cases. We have been able, through the generosity of the High School pupils at Christmas and by donations from a number of kind hearted people to provide clothing, shoes, and rubbers for some children who were badly in need of such things.

Illiterates

Reading's illiterates between 16 and 21 are few but we have some even who were born in Reading. We have issued from this office certificates to five girls who have not completed the 6th grade, but who are over 16 years of age, consequently, cannot be kept in school longer. Three of the five came to us from Nova Scotia with their schooling finished before the 6th grade. We were obliged to issue certificates, as they were over 16. One of the five was born in Poland and had no educational advantages there. One, however, was born here and has always lived in Reading, but has never done her best in school or attended regularly. Certificates have been issued to six illiterate boys. Of these four came from Canada, (3 from Nova Scotia and 1 from Prince Edward Island), having left school previous to the 6th grade. Two were born in Reading. One was the case which was mentioned in last year's report and upon which we rather prematurely congratulated ourselves because the boy had gone voluntarily to a vocational school rather than to be sent by legal means to a truant school. He was nearly 16 at the time and stayed in the vocational school only a short while. As soon as he was 16, we had no authority over him and he knew that, of course, all the time. The other boy, born in Reading, was a truant in days gone by. His case was taken to court and continued so many times, for some unexplained reason so far as the attendance officer of that day could find out, that the latter's patience was worn out and he refused to prosecute any longer. The boy, in each of these cases, suffers through lack of interest and co-operation at home. All these illiterates, with those who have previously come to us and are still coming, should go to evening school and could go to Wakefield, if provision was made for the small tuition involved. It is to the town's interest to decrease illiteracy all it can.

Pending Cases

We have a few cases now where attendance in school has been irregular and repeated visits to the homes bring no results worth mentioning. We may have to appeal to the courts to help us with some of these, because several boys and girls of Reading are being deprived of

their education by their parents on the flimsiest of excuses. In one family all the children have been out for weeks with a skin disease which is contagious, but not a reportable disease, so that the Board of Health has no authority. It can be cleaned up but the mother will not co-operate sufficiently. Another mother wrote to a teacher that she had a perfect right to keep her child out of school whenever she pleased. The law reads thus: "Every person in control of a child . . . shall cause him to attend school, . . . and, if he fails to do so for seven day sessions or fourteen half-day sessions within any period of six months, he shall on complaint by an attendance officer, be punished by a fine of not more than twenty dollars. No physical or mental condition capable of correction, or rendering the child a fit subject for special instruction at public charge in institutions other than public day schools, shall avail as a defence unless it appears that the defendant has employed all reasonable measures for the correction of the condition and the suitable instruction of the child." Also in another place it says: "Whoever induces or attempts to induce a minor to absent himself unlawfully from school, or unlawfully employs him or harbors a minor who, while school is in session, is absent unlawfully therefrom, shall be punished by a fine of not more than fifty dollars." Again we read: "A child between seven and sixteen who wilfully absents himself from school . . . shall be deemed an habitual truant, and, unless placed on probation . . . may, on complaint of an attendance officer, be committed to a county training school." We hesitate to place the stigma of a court record on any child, but occasionally it is necessary for the child's own sake.

Issuance of Labor Certificates

We have issued 189 certificates to minors, mostly employed in Reading, but some working in Boston, Wakefield, or other nearby communities. It is a source of pride to us that nearly all have completed the 8th grade and many the High School. In comparison with the number of certificates issued, those given to boys and girls who have not completed the 8th grade are few indeed. In only a few cases have we issued more than one certificate in a year to the same person. This shows that our boys and girls stay in jobs pretty well.

Some employers do not yet seem to understand that certificates are needed for the employment of minors in nearly all cases. If in doubt, it does no harm to require one anyway.

We are still having trouble because certificates are not always returned upon the cessation of employment of minors. We could keep track of these minors better, if, in every case of cessation of employment, the employer would return the certificate promptly to the office of the Superintendent of Schools. This is, moreover, ordered by law.

Outlook Good

On the whole, conditions in Reading are bright and hopeful as regards school attendance. We have now over 1700 pupils in all grades. Nearly

every child who leaves Junior High School enters the High School. Parents are uniformly interested and helpful where their co-operation is needed. Reading homes, with few exceptions, are ideal. There is probably no town of its size anywhere in which music and other cultural studies are more enjoyed as outside activities supplementing the school curriculum. Parents and teachers devote a great deal of their time to reading and taking courses which they think will enable them to understand better the problems of our boys and girls. We are doing things educationally in Reading that are the envy of others around us. The Attendance Officer feels that some of Reading's children are not getting their rightful chance because, through no fault of their own, they are losing by absence and tardiness some of these golden opportunities which will not come back to them in later life. In 1924 let us try our best to have every child in Reading in his proper place at school, promptly and regularly, every day schools are in session.

Respectfully submitted,

ABIGAIL H. MINGO, Attendance Officer.

Reading, Mass.

Dec. 31, 1923.

REPORT OF SCHOOL NURSE

Mr. Adelbert L. Safford,
Superintendent of Schools,
Reading, Mass.

Dear Sir:—I herewith submit my annual report as School Nurse.

Dr. Charles W. Eliot has said, "Health is the indispensable foundation for the satisfactions of life. Everything of domestic joy or occupational success has to be built on bodily wholesomeness and vitality. Health is essential to the enjoyment all through life of sports and active bodily exercise. It is also necessary to continuous capacity for hard work; and it is only through active play and hard work that anybody can make sure of the durable satisfactions of life. To promote health in the individual, the family and the community should be the constant aim of every good citizen in the American democracy."

Coupling this objective with the slogan "prevention rather than cure" our aim then has been to build up a school health program which will assist the children of Reading to obtain the maximum amount of enjoyment from life.

In reviewing the work of the past year there seems to me much in the way of progress. The service has been extended so that it now includes, not only the routine inspection and examination for physical defects and the subsequent follow-up work, but several health clinics in permanent operation. Of these I shall deal in detail with the two which are new this year.

The Schick Clinic

Early in the year with the co-operation of the State Department of Health a campaign against diphtheria was started in the schools. Some five hundred and fifty children were given the Schick test and the majority found to be susceptible to the disease. These children were then given an injection of toxin anti-toxin at intervals of one week for three weeks.

As the action of the toxin anti-toxin requires a period of from three to six months and the result of the treatment can only be obtained by another Schick test, the number who have been immunized after three injections cannot be quoted in this report. As this report goes to press plans are in order to resume the Schick program early in January.

Throughout the state the percentage who were immunized after the first course of treatments has been from 85% to 92%. Whether or not

Reading will measure up to this standard has yet to be found out. What we do know, however, is, with the large percentage of children susceptible to the disease, the relative danger Reading has been in, had a well-defined epidemic of diphtheria invaded the town.

The Examination Clinic

In last year's report I stated that much was need along nutritional lines.

Although there has been in operation for some time a hot noon lunch in three of the schools and a mid-morning lunch of milk in four others, there still persists a large percentage of underweights throughout the schools. And by underweights, I have in mind children who are seriously so. A margin of 10% is usually allowed and beyond this point it has seemed advisable to follow up the weight index with a general physical examination. This was made possible by the examination clinics which were held at different times during the year at the Grouard House.

The clinics are financed by the State Department of Health and the Tuberculosis League and are offered to the various towns as a part of the state-wide program against tuberculosis. The results of these clinics are far reaching both in diagnostic and educational value.

During the year, 130 children have been examined, 16 had X-Rays of chest at North Reading Sanatorium and one child has been a patient at Westfield Sanatorium since September.

With the majority it has seemed to be a question of rapid growth, improper food or health habits, an over-crowded program of school and social activities or some remedial physical defect, such as diseased tonsils and adenoids, carious teeth, etc. In such cases the simple recommendations of "more rest and proper diet" was stressed by the doctors and the State Nutrition Worker who was in attendance and added so much to the value of the clinics by her careful checking over of the child's habits with the parents.

The Dental Clinic

The work of the dental clinic has continued under the direction of Dr. Bates, assisted by Miss Ruth Bailey and since October, by Miss Bertha Perkins.

The amount of good accomplished by the clinic cannot alone be estimated by the number of fillings, extractions, etc., but by the general improvement along physical lines due to the correction of dental defects.

Since fall an inter-school contest has been carried on and the display of little red buttons at the school shows how each is progressing. For the little red button means that the wearer has been to the dentist and had the necessary work completed. The dentists in town have co-operated and their patients also are discharged with the red button, bearing the motto "Good Teeth—Good Health".

Other Phases of the Work

In co-operation with the attendance officer, many families have been given material relief in the way of clothing, shoes, rubbers, etc.

At this time may I make an appeal for children's clothing which any parent may have on hand and have no further use for. Both the attendance officer and myself have found that in many instances the reason for absence from school has been the lack of proper clothing for certain weather conditions or illness caused by such conditions.

The health work in the schools has continued to have the steady support of the Reading Tuberculosis and Red Cross Committees. The members of these committees have given freely of their time and interest. The success of several innovations such as the Schick and Nutrition clinics have been due in no small degree to the splendid assistance which they have rendered. May I take this opportunity to thank each and every member for her support.

In closing I wish to thank you, Mr. Safford, for your wise counsel and understanding and the school committee and teachers for their co-operation and support.

Respectfully submitted,

MABEL M. BROWN, School Nurse.

READING HIGH SCHOOL IVY DAY EXERCISES
CLASS OF 1923

Reading High School Hall
Monday afternoon, June twenty-fifth, at three o'clock

Class Officers

GEORGE BURTON LONG	President
MARGARET LUTES ROBINSON	Vice-President
DOROTHY ELIZABETH SIDEBOTTOM	Secretary
ARTHUR MONTELLE HATHAWAY, JR.	Treasurer

Ivy Day Committee

EDWARD CUTCLIFFE, Chairman	
RONALD MICHELINI	FAITH SMALLÉY
EDWIN BROGAN	STEPHEN MEUSE
LAURA KELSO	

Class Motto

"SCHOOL THE PREPARATION—LIFE THE BATTLE"

PROGRAM

March	High School Orchestra
Address of Welcome	Edward C. Clancy
Presentation of Class Gift	Katrina Schimpfke
Class History	Albert Hall Damon
Chorus—The Viking Song—Coleridge-Taylor	
Class Will	Dorothy Wiswall Crafts
Class Elections	Arvilla Meade Copeland
Chorus—On to Victory—Reeves	
Class Prophecy	Arthur Montelle Hathaway, Jr., Laura Catherine Kelso
Class Song	Written by Grace Soule
The audience is requested to adjourn to the grounds for the planting of the Ivy	
Ivy Oration	George Burton Long, President of Senior Class
Acceptance of the Spade	Guy MacKay Crosby, President of the Junior Class

READING HIGH SCHOOL COMMENCEMENT EXERCISES
CLASS OF 1923

High School Hall
Tuesday Evening, June twenty-sixth
at eight o'clock

PROGRAM

MARCH

High School Orchestra

PRAYER by Rev. Marion Franklin Ham

THE VIKING SONG

High School Chorus

Coleridge-Taylor

THE WORST GENERATION—Salutatory

Mary Marble Johnson

THE POWER BEHIND THE POWERS

Dorothy Elizabeth Sidebottom

THE BIRTHDAY SONG

High School Chorus

Jakobowski

LAW AND LAWLESSNESS

Ronald Michellini

Nicholas Murray Butler

HUMORING THE SENSE OF HUMOR —Valedictory

Margaret Lutes Robinson

CONFERRING OF DIPLOMAS

Walter S. Parker, Chairman of the School Committee

BENEDICTION by Rev. Payson Edward Pierce

Director of Music—J. Albert Wilson

*Faculty Honor—George A. Gerard. Excused from Essay.

CLASS OF 1923

College Course

Alice Elizabeth Batchelder	Stephen Edward Meuse
Gerald Francis Bredbury	Margaret Miles Partelow
Arvilla Meade Copeland	Margaret Lutes Robinson
Edward C. Clancey	Doris Gertrude Sanders
Dorothy Wiswall Crafts	Dorothy Elizabeth Sidebottom
Alberta Hall Damon	Faith Smalley
Mary Marble Johnson	Harold Otis Ernest Towle
George Burton Long	Priscilla Vinning Webster
Laurence Gleason Lucas	

Scientific Preparatory Course

Frederick J. Emerson	Arthur Montelle Hathaway, Jr.
Ronald Michelini	Charles Willard Perkins

Commercial Course

Eleanor Brown	Annie Elizabeth McKennon
Edwin Anthony Brogan	Gladys Isabell McLean
Marion Mabelle Burditt	Emily Bancroft Nichols
Martha Vivian Burrows	Charlotte Pransky
Christine E. Cheney	Katrina Schimpfke
Edward Patrick Donegan	Catherine Palmer Shaw
Ethel M. Douyard	Helen Mae Shaw
Thomas Joseph Fitzpatrick	Margaret Smith
Ruth Randall Goodwin	Myrtle Smith
Catherine Greene	Paul Beckett Stevens
Catherine Burleigh Horton	Gertrude Eleanor Strahorn
Catherine Louise Ingalls	Mary Anna Spillane
Florence Marie Kelley	Sophia Stone
Eleanor Mae Lyman	Lillian Turner
Leo Marchetti	Anna May Zesewitz
Gertrude H. Mattison	

General Course

Ruth Doris Abbott	Edith Christina Johnson
Virginia Burnham	Grace Mills Soule
James Edward Cutcliffe, Jr.	Leander Payne Smith
Helen Goodwin Day	Gladys Elizabeth Sias
Edgar LeRoy Frost	Louise Wilson
George A. Gerard	

Normal Course

Laura Catherine Kelso	Mary Rebecca MacDonald	Frances Gertrude Moore
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Agricultural Course

Helen Hutchinson

PUPILS GRADUATED FROM JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL

JUNE, 1923

Adden, Mary E.	McKenney, Margaret
Ainsworth, Parker	McLeod, Angus E.
Alderson, Blanche	McLeod, Eleanor L.
Allard, Marion	McLeod, Trueman
Anderson, Ethel	Melonson, Corinne
Atwood, Violet	Mercer, Dorothy
Barrett, Kenneth	Merritt, Alfred M.
Brown, Helen	Meuse, Agnes G.
Brown, Thelma E.	Meuse, Florence
Briggs, Louise	Morton, Newell
Bryden, Beatrice	Mount, Robert J., Jr.
Bryden, Bertha	Nelson, F. Gertrude
Byram, Joseph G.	Newell, Priscilla
Burke, George S.	Norton, Robert D.
Burns, Annie L.	Nutter, Barbara T.
Butters, Edna	Parker, G. Fletcher
Cain, Robert	Parsons, Eula E.
Carter, Donald C.	Patterson, Barbara
Charlton, Ralph	Piston, Edward M.
Clark, Norman	Porch, Louise
Clements, Mary E.	Putnam, Allan
Colby, Ruth P.	Rich, George
Condry, Catherine R.	Richards, John F.
Conti, Arthur	Riley, Evelyn
Conti, Ernest	Riseman, Louis
Cook, Leonice	Ritchie, Marjorie
Daniel, Douglas G.	Rogers, Elsie
Desmond, Nora R.	Rogers, Lillian
Dewey, Robert F.	Rogers, Margaret
Doherty, John J.	Roxbee, Mabel G.
Downs, Alice	Sanborn, Edwin N.
Doucette, Helen	Sargent, Walter G.
Dulong, James A.	Schimpfke, Bernard
Flaherty, William	Schlosser, Bernadette
Freeman, Ada	Shaw, Ruth
Freeman, Walter	Siegars, George N. M.
Frotten, Ruth	Skidmore, Merritt
Gaboy, Chester E.	Solomon, Eleanor
Galvin, Thomas J.	Stanley, Duncan
Gaw, Wellard	Stevens, Gloria
Gay, Clarence	Stevens, Robert
Gleason, Glenna	Stewart, McLeod
Godfrey, Edna	Stock, Winona
Hasty, Harriet L.	St. Louis, William

Heselton, Dorothy	Stone, Esadore
Holden, Roland	Surrette, Adele
Hopkins, Christinia	Surrette, Eleanor C.
Horrocks, Robert	Swain, Phillip B.
Howland, Dorothy	Tasney, Edward
Hoyt, Carroll	Tebeau, Alice
Hurd, Dorothy	Thaxter, W. Keniston
Johnson, Alice	Tibbetts, James
Johnson, Ralph	Tolman, Margaret
Keay, Ruth	Turner, Clifton
Kelso, Ednamay	Turner, Helen J.
Killam, Dudley	Upton, Harry
Kinsley, Elizabeth	Wade, Morton O.
Knight, Elizabeth	Wall, Doris F.
Knight, Ruth	Ward, Russell
Latham, Cecil R.	Walsh, Joseph
LeFave, Estelle	Wellman, Albert L.
Lindsey, John E.	Wescott, Ruth
Little, Edna	White, George R.
Little, Lillian	Whiteman, Ray
Livingstone, Gladys	Whiteman, Roy
Lougee, Carl M.	Wiberg, Ellen
Lyons, Madeline	Wilkinson, Ruth M.
Marchetti, Arthur	Wilson, Abbie
Matheison, William G.	Wilson, William
Maxwell, Stanley	Wood, Ruth
McBrien, Virginia	Wright, Joseph M.
McCaughy, Florence	Zwicker, Lawrence

TEACHERS IN SERVICE, DEC. 31, 1923, WHERE EDUCATED, YEAR APPOINTED ALSO ENROLLMENT FOR FOUR MONTHS ENDING DECEMBER 31, 1923

SCHOOL	GRADES OR SUB- JECTS	NAME OF TEACHER	WHERE EDUCATED	Year Appointed	Salary	Total Enrollment	Average Membership	Average Attendance	Per cent. of Attendance
High School	Prin'pl., Physics	Edw. V. Atwood, S. B., A. M.	Boston Univ., U. S. Tech. School	1921	\$3000	515	505	4.77	94.00
	Head Eng. Dept.	Helen R. Abbott, A. B.	Mt. Holyoke College	1915	1900				
	Com. Eng.	Elizabeth A. Batchelder	Salem, Simmons, B. U. Bus. Adm.	1916	1800				
	Physics, Alg., Agriculture	Stewart P. Batchelder, B. S.	Mass. Agricultural College	1922	1700				
	Phys'l. Training, Biology, Health	Ascha Bean, B. A.	University of Maine	1922	1600				
	History, English	Carl Belmore, A. B.	Bates College	1921	2000				
	Manual Training	Alfred Boehm	Trade School, Germany	1920	1900				
	Bookkeeping and Penmanship...	Alberta F. Drury	Salem and Posse Normal, B. U. Bus. Adm., Bentley School Acct.	1917	1800				
	Sten. and Type.	E. Frances Greenhalgh	Willamantic Normal, and Bay Path Institute	1914	1800				
	German, Math...	Luke Halpin, A. B.	Bowdoin College	1922	1900				
	Spanish	Lillian Jeffs	St. Lawrence University	1917	1800				
	French, Math...	Helen G. Kershaw, A. B.	Radcliffe College	1919	1800				
	Drawing	M. Adeline Lahaise	Mass. Normal Art School	1919	1600				
	Sewing, Junior High Fr.	Rita Lahaise	Elliott School of Manual Training	1921	1500				
	Sec'y to Supt., Dean of Girls, Dr. Lunch Room	Abigail H. Mingo, A. B.	Boston University, Chandler Sec.	1918	1800				
	Chem. and Math.	Frederick J. Pope, B. S.	Colby College	1922	1900				
	French	Marian T. Pratt, A. B.	Wellesley Col., Dartmouth S. S., Univ. de Dijon, Paris, France	1919	1800				
	Bus. Prac., Eng.	Bernice Smith, A. B.	University of Maine	1923	1500				
	Latin	Mildred B. Sussmann, A. B.	Radcliffe College	1919	1800				
	Agriculture	Rudolf Sussman, B. S.	Conn. & Mass. Agr. Colleges	1917	2880				
	Coach, Phys. Tr., Civics, Eng...	Russell P. Taylor, A. B.	Bates College, Summer School Springfield College	1922	1900				
	Type, and Sten.	Mabel E. Thomason	Fitchburg N. r'l. Wor. Bus. Inst.	1922	1600				
	Stand., Guidance	Fannie C. Whittenmore	Hyannis Normal, Harvard, B. U.	1905	1800				
	Music	J. Albert Wilson	Harvard	1920	1500				

SCHOOL	GRADES OR SUB- JECTS	TEACHER	WHERE EDUCATED	Year Appointed	Salary	Total Enrollment	Membership	Average Attendance	Per cent. of Attendance
Highland and Junior High	Princ'pl, Algebra	Raymond W. Blaisdell, A. B.	Bates, Columbia Sum. School, Bates Summer School.....	1923	2700				
	Asst.Prin., Arith Gram. and Geom Drw, Eng, Music Manual Training Hist. and Civics English Geog., Music Arith., Pen ship Science, Printing Phys. Training Dom. Science Pen., Bus. Prac. Phys. Training	Emma S. Page..... Louise Burrage, A. B..... Eleanor F. Emerson..... Lyman E. Finney..... Lestina M. Goddard..... Alice E. Hood..... Louise B. Jenkins..... Una M. Kimball..... Ida C. Lengyel..... Helen White..... Ethel S. Williams.....	Gilmanston Acad., N. H. State Nor. Tufts College..... Salem Normal School..... Mass. Nor. Art School, Col. Univ. Concord Training School..... Bridgewater Nor., N. E. Conserv. Plymouth N. H., Normal..... Worcester Normal, Harvard S. S. Sargent, State Normal, Hungary Framingham Normal..... Salem Normal.....	1899 1923 1915 1918 1920 1902 1919 1920 1915 1917 1915 1923 1922	1800 1400 1500 1800 1500 1500 1500 1500 1500 1500 1500 1300 1500	34 41	33.59 39.97	38.8 38.18	96.73 95.52
Highland Grades	Grade 6.....	A. Louise Fogg.....	Colby College.....	1920	1400	50	49.17	47.47	95.51
	Grade 6.....	Carolyn C. Grace.....	St. Nor, Com. Col. Hyannis S. Sch	1919	1400	50	47.76	46.53	97.78
Centre	Grade 5.....	Glenra Dow.....	Hyannis Normal.....	1920	1400	46	41.66	40.71	91.95
	Grade 5.....	Matilda J. Gamble.....	Chicago University.....	1920	1400	46	43.68	43.09	96.88
	Prin. and Grade 3	M. Grace Wakefield.....	Salem Normal.....	1890	1500	48	46.28	44.08	95.25
	Opport. Room...	Alda L. Parker.....	Westfield Nor., Harvard Summer	1914	1500	18	16.75	15.29	94.09
	Grade 2.....	Ethel Hanson.....	Columbus (Ohio) Normal.....	1922	1300	49	44.76	44.54	93.28
	Grade 3.....	Helen G. Quinlan.....	Salem Normal.....	1915	1400	49	45.76	43.08	93.78
	Grade 4.....	Vera Buckle, A. B.....	Boston University.....	1915	1400	49	47.60	45.65	96.32
	Grade 4.....	Margaret Whittier.....	Salem Normal.....	1916	1400	48	47.02	44.64	95.05
Union Street	Prin. and Grade 1	Anna P. Reid.....	Reading High.....	1884	1500	47	44.77	41.45	92.58
		Marion H. Morgan.....	Framingham Normal.....	1904	1400	46	44.36	41.97	94.61
		Faye M. Taylor.....	Bridgeport Normal.....	1921	1400	46	42.13	34.47	89.1
		Ethel J. Bent.....	Conn. State Normal.....	1911	1400	48	47.96	45.60	95.09

TEACHERS IN SERVICE, DEC. 31, 1923, WHERE EDUCATED, YEAR APPOINTED
ALSO ENROLLMENT FOR FOUR MONTHS ENDING DECEMBER 31, 1923—(CONTINUED)

Lowell Street....	Prin. and Grade 3	Nellie P. Beaton.....	Danvers High.....	1919	1500	13	12.76	12.40	97.14
	Grade 4....	Nellie P. Beaton.....				20	18.75	17.61	93.88
	Grade 5....	Annie W. Quillen.....	Salem Normal.....	1916	1400	19	17.66	16.89	95.53
	Grade 6....	Annie W. Quillen.....				20	19.75	19.16	95.94
	Grade 2....	Barbara Winship.....	Miss Wheelock Training.....	1919	1300	19	17.85	18.45	94.63
	Grade 3....	Barbara Winship.....				13	11.52	11.89	96.99
Prospect Street..	Grade 1....	Winifred Cochrane.....	Plymouth (N. H.) Normal.....	1919	1400	29	24.99	27.24	91.45
	Prin. and Grade 2	Ada E. Dow.....	Lowell Normal.....	1909	1500	15	19.13	18.51	96.57
	Grade 3....	Ada E. Dow.....				19	12.45	12.18	98.11
	Grade 4....	Olive S. Perry.....	Wheelock Train., Hyannis Nor'l	1916	1400	17	15.99	14.77	92.87
	Grade 1....	Ruth L. Goodwin.....	Perry Normal School.....	1923	1300	24	22.83	21.51	94.10
	Grade 5....	Inez H. Lewis.....	Gorham Normal.....	1923	1300	36	32.82	30.07	91.42
Chestnut Hill....	Grade 6....	Inez H. Lewis.....				21	20.43	19.75	96.52
	Prin. and Grade 1	Isabelle P. Kiscock.....	Dean Academy.....	1911	1500	17	16.71	15.97	95.55
	Grade 2....	Isabelle P. Kiscock.....				10	8.75	7.76	88.7
	Grade 3....	Isabelle P. Kiscock.....				10	10.	9.1	91.
	Grade 4....	Genevieve W. Quinlan.....	Salem Normal.....	1921	1200	13	12.1	11.1	91.7
	Grade 5....	Genevieve W. Quinlan.....				10	9.75	9.31	94.67
						11	11.	10.52	95.73
						11	11.	10.49	95.26

BUDGET SCHOOL DEPARTMENT, TOWN OF READING, 1924

1924 Estimated Appropriation				
	GENERAL ACCOUNT:—SALARIES			
	1. Salaries—Teachers' and Supt.	Expended 1923	Expended 1922	Expended 1921
\$102,776.58	2. Janitors'	\$ 99,088.58	\$ 93,433.50	\$ 88,250.82
8,000.00	3. Other Salaries	6,609.50	6,056.50	5,811.88
2,400.00	Attendance Officer		210.00	350.00
	Medical Inspector	400.00	400.00	400.00
	School Nurse	1,400.00	1,500.00	600.00
	Total Salaries	\$107,498.08	\$101,600.00	\$ 95,412.70
\$113,176.58	4. Transportation of Pupils	1,742.50	1,827.50	2,255.75
2,500.00	5. School Tuition			
200.00	6. Books	3,440.14	3,380.43	2,574.93
3,600.00	7. Supplies for Pupils	5,051.62	5,100.20	4,174.30
5,500.00	8. Apparatus for Teaching	1,354.28	871.43	885.26
1,250.00	9 General Expense			
1,250.00	Printing and Advertising	210.42	156.50	124.98
	Office Supplies	252.97	301.72	228.30
	Telephones	429.69	443.46	402.68
	Graduation, Miscellaneous	157.37	215.23	147.55
	Supt's. Expense	129.64	19.25	
	Lectures, Public Meetings	15.00	4.00	22.00
	Insurance			19.72
	Supervisor's Expense	50.25		
		\$ 1,245.34	\$ 1,130.16	\$ 945.23

BUDGET SCHOOL DEPARTMENT (Continued)

10.	Fuel	8,846.31	5,688.23	6,572.17
11.	Building Maintenance	1,045.12	745.82	758.67
	Gas and Electricity	688.70	434.85	482.05
	Water and Sewer	446.11	266.54	363.52
	Trucking, etc.	1,243.43	1,119.81	1,218.87
	Janitors' Supplies			
		\$ 3,423.36	\$ 2,567.02	\$ 2,823.11
14,472.50	12. Repairs			
	Buildings	7,159.88	6,279.19	4,106.18
	Furniture	3,297.70	1,284.93	1,520.11
	Grounds	291.70	370.50	330.95
		\$ 10,749.28	\$ 7,934.62	\$ 5,957.24
\$ 42,322.50	TOTAL FOR MAINTENANCE	\$ 35,852.82	\$ 28,499.59	\$ 26,137.09
\$155,499.08	TOTAL EXPENDITURES—General	\$143,350.90	\$130,099.59	\$121,549.79
	Receipts not from tax levy	11,546.85	16,238.66	12,170.52
	Due, but not paid	2,155.21	5,023.36	\$109,374.27
				1,154.00

AGRICULTURAL ACCOUNT

4,500.00	1. Teachers', Supt.'s and Janitors' Salaries	\$ 4,426.50	\$ 4,362.67	\$ 4,373.24
	2. Light, Fuel, Repairs		77.73	470.39
500.00	3. Books, Apparatus, Supplies	328.98	620.14	469.91
	Paid for Veterans' Books, Supplies	670.12	196.13	

\$ 5,000.00		\$ 5,425.60	\$ 5,256.67	\$ 5,313.54
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Receipts not from tax levy

6,603.14	3,357.84	3,145.64
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Due, but not paid

1,391.40	2,707.43	\$ 2,167.90	479.40
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INDUSTRIAL TUITION

\$ 1,000.00	Tuition paid	\$ 767.60	\$ 388.05	\$ 269.35
	Reimbursement from State	176.50	134.68	59.00

DETAIL OF EXPENDITURES OF SCHOOL DEPARTMENT FOR
YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 1923

General Account

Transportation:

Eastern Mass. Street Railway Co.	\$	850.00	
G. H. Adams		645.00	
Woburn & Reading Bus Line, Inc.		60.00	
G. F. Wood		187.50	
		<hr/>	\$ 1,742.50

Books:

Allyn & Bacon	134.04
F. M. Ambrose & Co.	30.00
American Book Co.	330.38
American Library Association	5.28
Arlo Publishing Co.	4.55
Edw. E. Babb & Co.	136.11
Richard B. Badger	1.81
F. J. Barnard Co.	47.40
Milton Bradley Co.	46.26
Boston League of Women Voters	31.90
Bruce Publishing Co.	1.64
The Chandler School	3.32
Child Health Organization of America ...	1.88
Cummings Express Co. ....	.75
Oliver Ditson Co.	45.75
Dodd, Mead & Co.	2.33
Doubleday, Page & Co.	8.00
Ginn & Co.	499.85
Gregg Publishing Co.	2.77
J. L. Hammett Co.	7.46
Harcourt, Brace Co.	99.02
Harvard Co-operative Society	2.70
D. C. Heath Publishing Co.	289.59
Hinds, Hayden & Eldredge, Inc.	1.80
Houghton, Mifflin Co.	149.21
B. W. Huebsch .....	.79
Iroquois Publishing Co.	6.92
La Prensa	2.00
Charles E. Lauriat Co.	58.90
Little, Brown & Co.	41.50
Longmans, Green & Co.	9.95
Lyons & Canahan	93.83
The Macmillan Co.	67.29
A. N. Marquis Co.	6.75
Mass. Society for Mental Hygiene	17.17
G. & C. Merriam Co.	75.00

Chas. E. Merrill Co.	18.74
McKnight & McKnight	7.79
Modern Book Bindery	61.60
Noble & Noble	6.42
Old Corner Book Stores	37.20
Public Education & Child Labor Ass'n of Pennsylvania	7.00
Public School Publishing Co.	41.10
G. P. Putnam's Sons	1.77
M. F. Quarrie & Co.	55.00
Rand, McNally & Co.	36.92
Regent's Publishing Co.	1.20
Ronald Press Co.	48.25
H. M. Rowe Co.	1.03
Benj. H. Sanborn Co.	63.17
School Arts Magazine	3.00
E. C. Schirmer Music Co.	20.20
Charles Scribner's Sons	52.18
Scott, Foresman Co.	229.50
Science Press	5.00
Silver, Burdett & Co.	128.13
Standard Book Co., Inc.	35.43
Survey Associates, Inc.	21.12
Joseph Taggart	4.00
Ungraded	1.50
University of Chicago, Dept. of Educ.	9.75
University Supply & Book Co.	1.67
Vocational Education Magazine	3.00
Williams Book Stores Co.	5.04
H. W. Wilson Co.	30.95
John C. Winston Co.	64.30
World Book Co.	168.28
Yale University Press	6.00

 \$ 3,440.14

Supplies for Pupils:

Adams Company	1.69
American Book Co.	6.08
American Railway Express Co.	7.86
G. H. Atkinson Co.	445.94
Edw. E. Babb & Co.	739.08
Peter Becker	21.50
Berry & Withington	16.40
Milton Bradley & Co.	209.24
Jas. W. Brine Co.	7.80
Bureau of Publications, Teachers' Coll.	25.01
M. F. Charles	6.20

Central Scientific Co.	39.31
W. H. Claffin & Co., Inc.	17.50
Culture Promotion Publications	45.94
Cummings Express Co.	28.00
Denoyer-Geppert Co.	13.52
Dobson-Evans Co. ....	.18
Ellis Publishing Co.	31.15
Francis Brothers	15.25
Ginn & Co.	94.21
C. H. Goldthwaite	5.28
J. L. Hammett Co.	1,995.40
Harris & Gilpatric	271.47
Hodsdon Brothers	23.40
Holden Patent Book Cover Co.	5.15
Howe & French, Inc.	94.43
Iroquois Publishing Co.	14.97
Kenney Bros. & Wolkins	53.26
W. E. King	27.50
M. A. Lahaise	2.35
Library Bureau	26.35
J. B. Lippincott Co.	8.51
H. B. McArdle	205.54
McKnight & McKnight	84.01
B. F. Macey	3.60
Jennie Mackie	2.50
Macey-Morris Co.	14.21
Marine Biological Laboratory	20.50
Nellie Mason	1.25
H. M. Meserve Co.	34.02
Modern Hospital Publishing Co.	5.00
N. E. Association of Coll. & Sec. Schs.	2.00
Office Appliance Co.	12.19
J. Clarence Oxley	33.93
Horace Partridge Co.	12.05
Peerless Supply Co.	26.93
Reading Citizens' Ice Co.	7.55
Reading Custom Laundry	20.42
Remington Typewriter Co.	50.60
Rich's Market	9.38
Rockport Fish Market	7.67
Ryan & Buker	43.28
Scott, Foresman Co.	5.00
F. F. Smith ....	.30
A. G. Spalding & Bro.	10.00
Standard Chem. & Supply Co.	13.35
Stone & Forsyth Co.	19.75
O. P. Symonds & Sons	1.25

L. T. Tarpin	15.78	
U. S. Gov't Printing Office	1.00	
Univ. of Chicago, Dept. of Education	2.50	
F. Wallace	10.20	
West Disinfecting Co.	11.25	
W. H. Willis	23.85	
World Book Co.	33.33	
Wright & Ditson Co.	7.50	
		<hr/> \$ 5,051.62

Apparatus for Teaching:

Allen Brothers	7.16	
American Multigraph Sales Co.	98.00	
Am. Type Founders Co.	7.37	
Edw. E. Babb & Co.	10.00	
Milton Bradley Co.	25.67	
Clapp & Leach	119.47	
Columbia Graphophone Co.	51.39	
J. W. Creamer	13.50	
Cummings Express Co.	26.10	
McPherson Daniel	20.00	
Denoyer-Geppert Co.	103.97	
Oliver Ditson Co.	6.50	
J. L. Hammett Co.	151.42	
D. C. Heath & Co. ....	.42	
David J. Lindner	1.00	
J. P. Lippincott Co.	3.66	
E. F. Mahady Co.	18.51	
H. M. Meserve & Co.	38.50	
James A. Murphy	1.00	
Royal Typewriter Co.	502.05	
Ryan & Buker, Inc.	6.09	
L. T. Tarpin	1.36	
A. T. Thompson & Co.	16.00	
Underwood Typewriter Co.	2.69	
Wensell & Co.	106.00	
World Book Co.	16.45	
		<hr/> \$ 1,354.28

General Expense:**(Printing and Advertising)**

Massachusetts Child Labor Com.	4.00	
H. B. McArdle	16.20	
Dana F. Perkins	17.28	
W. E. & J. F. Twombly	172.94	
		<hr/> \$ 210.42

(Office Supplies)

Clement Gleason	1.00	
G. H. Hammond	11.45	

H. B. McArdle	1.00		
Macey-Morris Co.	3.57		
H. M. Meserve & Co.	14.93		
H. A. Shepard & Co.	24.90		
Jas. T. Twohill Co.	5.75		
W. E. & J. F. Twombly	78.00		
U. S. Post Office	61.09		
Webster Publishing Co.	42.72		
Williams Book Stores Co.	1.35		
Wright & Potter Printing Co.	6.15		
	<hr/>	\$	252.97

(Supt.'s Travelling Expense)

A. L. Safford	129.64	\$	129.64
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(Telephones)

N. E. Tel. & Tel. Co.	429.69	\$	429.69
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(Graduation & Miscellaneous)

Bruce Publishing Co.	15.00		
Dennison Manufacturing Co.	1.70		
J. L. Hammett Co.	7.75		
H. B. McArdle	6.50		
N. E. Publishing Co.	18.00		
H. A. Shepard & Co.	13.80		
Helen H. Smalley	10.97		
W. E. & J. F. Twombly	5.00		
U. S. Post Office	1.00		
A. W. Wiley	51.75		
Mary U. Yaffee	26.40		
	<hr/>	\$	157.37

(Supervisor's Expense)

M. M. Brown	19.50		
H. M. Meserve Co.	3.00		
Nat'l Com. for Mental Hygiene	2.00		
Ward's Stationers	1.40		
F. C. Whittemore	24.35		
	<hr/>	\$	50.25

((Lectures, Public Meetings, etc.)

Edgerley & Besson	9.00		
William Pierpont	6.00		
	<hr/>	\$	15.00

Fuel:

W. Bancroft & Co.	13.00		
P. N. Sweetser	8,069.70		
O. P. Symonds & Sons	10.00		
	<hr/>	\$	8,846.31

Building Maintenance:

(Gas and Electricity)

Malden & Melrose G. L. Co.	179.33	
Municipal Light Board	865.79	
	<hr/>	\$ 1,045.12

(Water and Sewer)

Reading Board of Public Works	688.70	
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(Trucking, etc.)

American Railway Express Co.	12.96	
C. M. Cullinane	33.00	
Cummings Express Co.	128.94	
C. Gleason	19.95	
William Keleh	1.50	
W. H. Killam	10.80	
P. N. Sweetser	36.00	
Zanni & Co.	202.96	
	<hr/>	\$ 446.11

(Janitors' Supplies)

Andrews Paper Co.	7.50	
G. H. Atkinson Co.	1.56	
O. W. Austin	3.00	
M. F. Charles	1.55	
Cudahy Packing Co.	69.41	
Cummings Express Co.	5.10	
H. I. Dallman Co.	304.43	
C. B. Dolge	14.40	
Francis Brothers	130.69	
M. Franklin	23.76	
N. C. Hayner Co.	109.02	
Hodsdon Brothers	35.81	
F. J. Jameson	138.30	
Mass. State Prison	38.23	
Masury-Young Co.	69.75	
Reformatory for Women	32.22	
F. F. Smith	4.10	
Standard Chem. & Supply Co.	6.40	
S. R. Stenbridge	153.05	
Stone & Forsyth	79.00	
F. Wallace	7.65	
West Disinfecting Co.	8.50	
	<hr/>	\$ 1,243.43

Repairs:

(Buildings)

Allen Shade Roller Co.	280.45	
American Weatherstrip Co.	16.50	
W. Bancroft & Co.	113.13	

Badger Fire Extinguisher Co.	7.50
Brooks, Gill & Co.	39.00
R. P. Burgess	5.00
M. F. Charles	3.25
R. D. Clapp	56.18
Clapp & Leach	252.06
Benj. W. Craig	40.00
Cummings Express Co.	2.10
H. I. Dallman Co.	71.19
Andrew Dutton Co.	13.76
T. C. Fife	1,249.12
Forse Manufacturing Co.	32.88
Francis Brothers	23.37
J. L. Hammett Co.	8.73
Hodge Boiler Works	405.73
Hodsdon Brothers	633.94
Alex. LeFave	43.13
J. M. Maxwell, Jr., & Son	41.68
Metropolitan Paint Co.	176.32
Municipal Light Board	81.04
J. A. Murphy	8.50
Pettingell-Andrews Co.	45.28
W. E. Pratt	18.00
H. M. Sanders Co.	7.31
P. J. Seaman	1.25
Stewart & Robertson	3,470.37
A. J. Wilkinson & Co.	13.11
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	\$ 7,159.88

(Furniture)

American Seating Co.	503.05
Boston & Maine R.R.	32.71
M. F. Charles	3.00
F. M. Crosby	25.25
Cummings Express Co.	5.00
Francis Brothers	6.50
J. L. Hammett Co.	5.70
Heywood-Wakeeld Co.	2,203.90
John Hood Co.	34.92
Jordan, Marsh Co.	93.15
B. J. Leathers	3.00
Jones, McDuffee & Stratton	109.35
Harold McIntire	1.50
Macey-Morris Co.	54.00
J. A. Murphy	5.25
Pettingell-Andrews Co.	46.57
W. E. Pratt	130.00

Reading Rubber Mfg. Co.	8.00	
Royal Typewriter Co.	4.50	
Stone & Forsyth Co.	22.25	
		<hr/>
		\$ 3,297.70

(Grounds)

G. H. Atkinson Co.	2.00	
C. M. Cullinane	40.00	
Matthew Devaney	134.00	
E. R. Gaw	13.65	
C. Gleason	3.00	
No. Wilmington Nurseries	12.00	
Reading Board of Public Works	61.80	
J. M. Weston	25.25	
		<hr/>
		\$ 291.70

AGRICULTURAL ACCOUNT

Books and Supplies:

American Railway Express Co.	14.60
H. C. Ayseough	40.00
Joseph Breck & Sons	31.00
Burnham & Davis Lumber Co.	105.00
Cambridge Botannical Supply Co.	4.30
Cummings Express Co. ....	.85
Denoyer-Geppert Co.	26.22
Doubleday, Page & Co.	3.00
Ellis Publishing Co. ....	.75
Francis Brothers	24.16
E. M. Halligan	3.00
Roy Hirtle	39.00
Hoard's Dairyman	2.00
Fred C. Howard	27.53
Alex. LeFave	10.00
J. B. Lippincott Co.	33.61
Lyons & Carnahan	1.18
Macmillan Company	32.91
Market Growers' Journal	1.50
The Missouri Store Co.	53.49
N. E. Scale Co., Inc.	14.85
Orange Judd Pub. Co., Inc.	11.57
J. Clarence Oxley	1.50
Phelps Publishing Co.	2.00
O. G. Poor Lumber Co.	34.99
Rand, McNally Co.	7.38
Reading Greenhouses and Nurseries ....	.85
Reliable Poultry Journal Pub. Co.	19.00
Sears, Roebuck & Co.	144.75
H. A. Shepard & Co.	7.50

A. T. Thompson & Co.	43.29		
Torrence, Vary & Co.	49.00		
Upton Lumber Co.	69.96		
Vocational Education Magazine	3.00		
Williams Book Stores Co.	4.75		
H. W. Wilson Co.	6.00		
Wisconsin Incubator Co.	122.95		
World Book Co.	1.65		
		—————	\$ 999.10

INDUSTRIAL TUITION ACCOUNT

Tuition Paid:

City of Boston	328.21		
City of Somerville	255.39		
Town of Wakefield	184.00		
		—————	\$ 767.60

REPORT OF TREASURER

To the Citizens of Reading:—

During 1923 the Town Debt was increased by the issue of \$7,500.00 4½% Playground Notes and \$10,000.00 4½% Municipal Light Bonds.

Payments in 1923 amounted to \$40,300.00, leaving the net Town Debt, Dec. 31, \$445,600.00.

Bonds and notes to the amount of \$42,800.00 become due in 1924.

The amount of temporary loans authorized by law in anticipation of revenue for 1923 was \$353,940.73. Notes were issued to the amount of \$300,000.00, of which \$25,000.00 was for the purpose of refunding loans of 1923, leaving a balance of \$78,940.73 unissued for 1923.

H. H. KINSLEY, Treasurer.

Reading, Dec. 31, 1923.

TREASURER'S REPORT, TOWN OF READING, DEC. 31, 1923

Debtor

Balance, Jan. 1, 1923	\$ 40,887.39
G. V. Viall, Collector, Taxes, Moth, Interest Costs and Charges	383,802.57
Commonwealth of Mass.	
Corporation Tax	8,050.02
Income Tax	27,773.69
Nat'l Bank Tax	273.61
Street Ry. Tax	708.22
Civilian War Poll Tax	24.00
Soldiers' Exemption	145.99
Temporary Aid	1,731.45
State Aid	602.00
Mothers' Aid	2,231.86
Revenue Loans	300,000.00
Municipal Light Dept. Bonds Sold	10,000.00
Municipal Light Dept. Premium	65.00
Interest on Bank Deposits	1,478.71
School Dept. Tuition, etc.	18,491.49
Sewer Dept. Guarantee Deposits	3,768.58
Municipal Light Dept. Receipts	197,518.62
Water Dept. Receipts	41,231.75
Miscellaneous Receipts	13,966.02
	<hr/>
Total Receipts	\$1,011,863.58
	<hr/>
	\$1,052,750.97

Creditor

Discount Revenue Loans	\$ 7,815.16
Interest on Notes and Bonds	10,454.63
State Taxes and Assessments	40,773.04
County Tax	12,627.83
Notes and Bonds paid during 1923	40,300.00
Revenue Loans Paid	325,000.00
Other Payments per vouchers	583,821.40
	<hr/>
Total Payments	\$1,020,792.06
Petty Cash on hand	3,500.00
Cash in Banks	28,458.91
	<hr/>
	\$1,052,750.97

TREASURER'S REPORT, CEMETERY BEQUEST FUND, DEC. 31, 1923

Debtor

Jan. 1, 1923:

To securities and cash	\$ 29,438.92	
To note and bond paid	1,500.00	
To cash, sundry bequests	2,950.00	
To interest	1,319.66	
		\$ 35,208.58

Creditor

By payment, care of lots	\$ 1,152.19	
Note and bond matured	1,500.00	
By cash balance and securities, Dec. 31	32,556.39	
		\$ 35,208.58

HENRY H. KINSLEY, Treasurer.

TREASURER'S REPORT, GEORGE F. BUCK TRUSTEE FUND,
DEC. 31, 1923**Debtor**

Jan. 1, 1923:

To cash balance	\$ 66.56	
To interest	3.18	
		\$ 69.74

Creditor

Dec. 31, 1923:

By balance cash on deposit, Mechanics Savings Bank	\$ 69.74	
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HENRY H. KINSLEY, Treasurer.

TREASURER'S REPORT, PUBLIC LIBRARY FUND, DEC. 31, 1923

Debtor

Jan. 1, 1923:

To Benj L. Fabens' Legacy	\$ 100.00	
To interest	1.88	
		\$ 101.88

Creditor

By balance on deposit, Mechanics Savings Bank, Dec. 31, 1923	\$ 101.88	
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HENRY H. KINSLEY, Treasurer.

GRACE V. VIAL, COLLECTOR,

Dr.

Amount uncollected, Dec. 31, 1922, account 1918 Tax	\$	146.88
" Interest collected, account 1918 Tax		37.67
" uncollected, Dec. 31, 1922, account 1919 Tax		209.16
" Interest collected, account 1919 Tax		44.74
" uncollected, Dec. 31, 1922, account 1920 Tax		314.41
" Interest collected, account 1920 Tax		9.21
" uncollected, Dec. 31, 1922, account 1921 Tax		30,428.88
" Interest collected, account 1921 Tax		3,126.47
" uncollected, Dec. 31, 1922, account 1922 Tax		96,922.63
" uncollected sewer assessments, 1922 Commitment		9,636.79
" Interest collected, account 1922 Tax		3,564.02
" Interest collected, account 1922 Sewer		242.93
" Poll Tax Warrant, June 4, 1923		11,765.00
" Poll Tax Warrant, August 21, 1923		110.00
" Poll Tax Warrant, December 21, 1923		75.00
" General Tax Warrant, Sept. 5, 1923		335,310.31
" Moth Tax, Sept. 5, 1923		1,282.00
" General Tax Warrant, Dec. 21, 1923		949.03
" Sidewalk Assessment		209.82
" Sewer Commitment for 1923		3,322.59
" Interest collected, account 1923 Tax		158.69
" Interest collected, account 1923 Sewer		3.18
" Costs and charges		625.91
" received account redemption property		959.24
" Sewer Rentals, Jan. 1, 1923		1,318.20
" Sewer Rentals, July 1, 1923		1,859.85
" Advanced payments on apportioned sewer		209.56
" Interest on apportioned sewer .....		.37

 \$502,842.54

IN ACCOUNT WITH THE TOWN OF READING

Cr.		
Amount paid Treasurer, account 1918 Tax	\$	184.55
“ paid Treasurer, account 1919 Tax		253.90
“ paid Treasurer, account 1920 Tax		74.29
“ uncollected, account 1920 Tax, Personal		249.33
“ paid Treasurer, account 1921 Tax		31,694.37
“ abated, account 1921 Tax		160.21
“ transferred to Tax Title account 1921		1,471.38
“ uncollected, account 1921 Tax, Personal		229.39
“ paid Treasurer, account 1922 Tax		96,881.68
“ abated, account 1922 Tax		996.88
“ transferred to Tax Title account 1922		783.64
“ uncollected, account 1922 Tax, Personal		1,824.45
“ paid Treasurer, account 1922 Sewer Commitment ..		7,205.69
“ Sewer Assessments transferred to tax title account		716.52
“ Sewer Assessments on Town property cancelled		1,695.68
“ Sewer Assessments on U. S. Gov't property cancelled		130.10
“ Sewer Assessments cancelled and charged to appor-		
tioned sewer 1923-1931 (H. E. H.)		128.73
“ paid Treasurer, account 1923 Tax		240,551.79
“ abated, account 1923 Tax		2,968.64
“ uncollected, account 1923 Tax		106,339.42
“ paid Treasurer, account 1923 Sewer Commitment ..		2,117.48
“ abated, account 1923 Sewer Assessment (E. J. D.) ..		58.31
“ uncollected, account 1923 Sewer Commitment		1,149.98
“ paid Treasurer, account costs and charges		539.60
“ Constable, account costs and charges		86.31
“ paid Treasurer, account redemption property		959.24
“ paid Treasurer, account sewer rentals		3,127.05
“ uncollected, account sewer rentals		51.00
“ paid Treasurer, advanced payments on appor-		
tioned sewer		209.93
		<hr/>
		\$502,842.54

GRACE V. VIALI, Collector of Taxes.

Reading, Mass., Dec. 31, 1923.

Approved:

L. G. Bent, Town Accountant.

Annual Report
OF THE
TOWN ACCOUNTANT

RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURES

For the Year Ended December 31

1923

Board of Selectmen:

Gentlemen:—The annual report in detail of all receipts and expenditures of the past financial year is found in the following pages, together with such other information as may be of interest or is required by statute.

The Tax Collector's books have been audited during the year; payments to the Treasurer verified with Treasurer's receipts; statements of all unpaid taxes and assessments sent out.

The accounts of the Water Department have been examined; payments to the Treasurer verified; statements of all unpaid charges sent out and cash in office counted and proved.

The charges and receipts of the Sewer, Moth, Cemetery and Sealer's departments have been checked and found correct.

Statements of department appropriation accounts have been furnished each month or the accounts compared with the Accountant's ledger.

The Treasurer's accounts have been examined and agree with the Accountant's books; bank balances have been verified and cash in office counted and proved. Checks have been drawn and deposited for the payment of all temporary and funded loans and for the payment of interest on all notes and bonds.

The accounts of funds held in trust by the Treasurer have been audited; securities examined and cash verified with bank deposits.

My thanks are tendered the Board of Selectmen and all officials and department heads for co-operation with the accounting office.

Respectfully submitted,

LEON G. BENT, Town Accountant.

December 31, 1923.

REPORT OF TOWN ACCOUNTANT

ACCOUNTING DEPARTMENT

Receipts of 1923

Grace V. Viall, Collector:

Poll, Personal and Real Estate Taxes	\$361,162.11	
Moth Assessments	1,371.25	
Sewer Assessments	8,623.84	
Sewer Rentals	3,127.05	
Sidewalk Assessments	166.42	
Interest on Taxes	6,940.80	
Interest on Sewer Assessments	912.26	
Costs and Charges, less fees	539.60	
Redemption of Property	959.24	
	<hr/>	\$383,802.57

Commonwealth of Massachusetts:

Corporation Tax	\$ 8,050.02	
Income Tax	16,373.69	
School Income Tax, see School Dept.		
National Bank Tax	273.61	
Street Railway Tax	708.22	
Civilian War Poll Tax	24.00	
	<hr/>	25,429.54

Board of Selectmen:

Licenses and Permits:

Jitney Bus	\$ 500.00	
Taxicab	10.00	
Second-hand Auto Dealers	75.00	
Advertising Hearings	37.12	
Victuallers	33.50	
Auctioneers	4.00	
Revolvers	17.00	
Pool Room and Bowling Alley	15.00	
Junk Dealers	75.00	
Liquor, 3rd Class	1.00	
Hair Dressers	2.00	
	<hr/>	769.62

Commonwealth of Massachusetts:

Pedlers' Licenses	26.00
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County of Middlesex:

Dog Tax	896.83
---------------	--------

Police Department:

Sale Still Material	17.15	
Court Fines	719.00	
		<hr/>
		736.15

Fire Department:

Mrs. C. F. Burdette	\$ 25.00	
Town of Wilmington	50.00	
C. J. Jaquith	3.00	
Neighborhood Betterment Association	19.48	
Miscellaneous	20.00	
		<hr/>
		117.48

Moth Department:

Bills paid to H. H. Kinsley, Treasurer:

Account of 1922 work	\$ 670.20	
Account of 1923 work	756.75	
		<hr/>
		1,426.95

Board of Health:

Sundry Parties reimbursements	\$ 4.20	
Comm. of Massachusetts	8.00	
Town of Stoneham	40.00	
Alcohol Permits	9.00	
Milk Dealers and Oleomargarine Licenses ..	19.50	
Slaughtering License	100.00	
		<hr/>
		180.70

Sealer of Weights and Measures:

Sundry Parties, testing and sealing fees	52.81	
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Sewer Department:

House Connections:

Sundry Parties Guarantee Deposits	3,768.58	
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Highway Department:

Sundry Parties, Sidewalk Construction, one-half cost	\$ 144.48	
Comm. of Massachusetts	60.00	
		<hr/>
		204.48

Poor Department:

Comm. of Mass., Mothers' Aid	\$ 2,231.86	
Comm. of Mass., Temporary Aid	1,731.45	
City of Boston, Overseers of Public Welfare	303.00	
City of Cambridge, Overseers of Pub. Welfare	569.50	
Sundry Parties, reimbursements, etc.	146.40	
		<hr/>
		4,982.21

Soldiers' Benefits:

Comm. of Mass., State Aid	\$ 602.00	
Comm. of Mass., Military Aid	145.00	
Comm. of Mass., Soldiers' Exemption	145.99	
		<hr/>
		892.99

School Department:

Comm. of Mass., Income Tax (Chap. 70, Sect 1, G. L.)	\$ 11,400.00	
Comm. of Mass., Aid to Industrial School	778.43	
Comm. of Mass., Industrial Tuition, reimburse- ment	176.50	
Comm. of Mass., Smith-Hughes Fund	165.10	
Comm. of Mass., Tuition State Minor Wards	2,707.97	
Federal Board Vocational Education, U. S. Veterans Bureau	3,980.43	
City of Boston, Tuition City Minor Wards ..	1,293.39	
City of Melrose, Tuition	617.49	
Town of North Reading, Tuition	7,213.16	
Town of Wilmington, Tuition	124.23	
Town of Tewksbury, Tuition	695.19	
Sundry Parties, Tuition	350.00	
Grouard House, sale food, etc.	358.51	
Miscellaneous Receipts	31.09	
		29,891.49
Public Library Fines		263.00

Municipal Light Department:

Light and Power, rates and charges	197,518.62
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Water Department:

Water rates and charges	41,231.75
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Rents:

C. L. Deming	\$ 360.00	
Sundry Parties	538.00	
		898.00

Cemetery Department:

Sundry Parties, sale of lots and graves	\$ 3,011.00	
Sundry Parties, care of lots, etc.	2,604.38	
Interest on Cemetery Bequest Funds	1,152.19	
Royal Indemnity Co.	20.56	
		6,788.13

Interest on Bank Balances	1,478.71
Revenue Loans, Temporary	300,000.00
Municipal Light Dept. Bonds sold	10,000.00
Premium on Municipal Light Dept. Bonds ..	65.00
Benj. L. Fabens' Est. Legacy	100.00
C. L. Deming, Telephone charges, reimbursement	\$ 45.77
Light charges, ditto	53.98
	<hr/>
	99.75

Insurance Account Special, Sundry Parties, pay- ment on loss	63.24
Miscellaneous Receipts .....	.85

Refunds:

Sundry Parties, Insurance rebates	\$ 172.49	
Poor Dept. Acct, 1923 payment	3.00	
School Dept. Acct. 1923, payment	2.64	
		<hr/>
		178.13
		<hr/>
Total Receipts		\$1,011,863.58

PAYMENTS OF 1923

Insurance Account, Special	\$ 71.00
Overlay 1922 Abatements	39.06
Overlay 1923 Abatements	8.08
General Revenue, Refunds	215.00
Tax Title Account	32.70
Moderator's Salary	60.00
Selectmen's Expenses	276.59
Selectmen's Clerical	1,310.00
Accountant's Salary	1,000.00
Treasurer's Salary	1,000.00
Treasurer's Expenses	431.68
Collector's Salary	2,000.00
Collector's Expenses	722.63
Collector's Clerical	127.25
Assessors' Salaries	1,800.00
Assessors' Expenses	999.10
Assessors' Clerical	1,144.00
Block System Survey	219.53
Town Counsel's Salary	500.00
Town Clerk's Salary	200.00
Town Clerk's Expenses	493.69
Board of Public Works Salaries and Expenses	4,467.33
Registrars Salaries	170.00
Election Expenses	270.09
Miscellaneous Expenses	4,001.54
Municipal Building Maintenance	2,874.92
Central Fire Station Maintenance	865.00
Victory House Lighting	173.72
G. A. R. Rooms Lighting	12.28
G. A. R. Rooms, Rent	336.00
Insurance	10,424.11
Interest	18,269.79
Police Department Maintenance	2,206.35
Police Department Salaries	12,663.85
Police Department Special Pay Roll	713.76
Fire Department Maintenance	3,760.63
Fire Department Salaries	8,800.00
Fire Department Call Men Pay Roll	2,751.00

Fire Alarm Special Appropriation	1,095.56
Fire Alarm Maintenance	634.08
Fire Alarm Supt. Salary	33.34
Moth Department Maintenance	6,397.89
Tree Warden Maintenance	1,500.00
Forest Warden Maintenance	136.11
Hydrant Rentals	6,060.00
Drinking Fountains	100.00
Inspector of Buildings Salary	300.00
Inspector of Wires Salary	100.00
Sealer of Weights and Measures Salary	400.00
Sealer of Weights and Measures Expenses	61.66
Health Department Salaries	250.00
Health Department Expenses	298.84
Inspector of Plumbing Salary	700.00
Inspector of Animals Salary	200.00
Inspector of Milk Salary	100.00
Care of Contagious Diseases	735.42
Garbage Collection	1,600.00
Sewer Department, Maintenance and Construction	14,559.55
House Connections Account	3,494.51
Highway Department:	49,035.69
Snow and Ice Removal	7,474.56
Drainage Ditches Cleaning	2,702.19
Street Lighting	14,800.00
Poor Department, Maintenance	6,184.95
Poor Department, Clerical Salary	352.00
Poor Department, Visitor	400.00
Poor Department, Board and Care	2,319.61
Poor Department, Mothers' Aid, Town of Reading	1,846.56
Poor Department, Mothers' Aid, State of Mass.	2,189.34
Poor Department, Temporary Aid, State of Mass.	1,912.05
State Aid, Acct. Civil War	462.00
Soldiers' Relief	2,800.50
School Department:	
General Maintenance	35,852.82
Salaries	107,498.08
Agricultural Maintenance	999.20
Agricultural Salaries	4,426.50
Tuition	808.36
Public Library Maintenance	3,046.38
Public Library Salaries	1,995.98
Park Department, Maintenance	1,958.11
Cemetery Department, Maintenance	11,061.70
Water Department	45,379.89
Municipal Light Department	244,741.57
Flag Pole	431.20

Memorial Day	260.78
Soldiers' Graves, Care of	361.34
Public Library Building Claims	854.92
Painting Municipal Building	75.00
Drainage System Survey	1,500.00
Child Welfare Work	290.00
Middlesex County Agricultural Bureau	150.00
State Tax	20,520.00
Civilian War Poll Tax	7,125.00
National Bank Tax	574.91
Corporation Tax	31.03
State Highway Tax	2,318.99
Fire Prevention Tax	99.02
Municipal Lighting Tax	39.17
County Tax	12,627.83
Metropolitan Sewer Assessments	10,064.92
Temporary Loans	325,000.00
Maturing Debt, not including light & water bonds	12,500.00
B. L. Fabens' Legacy, to Library Fund	100.00
Total	\$1,039,339.79
Less Transfers	18,547.73
Net Payments	\$1,020,792.06

TREASURER'S CASH

Balance on hand Jan. 1, 1923	\$ 40,887.39
Receipts for 1923	1,011,863.58
	1,052,750.97
Payments for 1923	1,020,792.06
Balance on hand Dec. 31, 1923	\$ 31,958.91

APPROPRIATIONS FOR 1923

General Government:

Moderator's Salary	\$ 60.00
Selectmen's Expenses	300.00
Selectmen's Clerical	1,310.00
Accountant's Salary	1,000.00
Treasurer's Salary	1,000.00
Treasurer's Expenses	400.00
Tax Collector's Salary	2,000.00
Tax Collector's Expenses	650.00
Tax Collector's Clerical	150.00
Assessors' Salaries	1,800.00
Assessors' Expenses	1,000.00

Assessors' Clerical	1,144.00	
Town Clerk's Salary	200.00	
Town Clerk's Expenses	500.00	
Town Counsel's Salary	500.00	
Registrars' Salaries	170.00	
Election Expenses	500.00	
Board of Public Works, Supt. Salary	3,000.00	
Clerical	936 00	
Expenses	576.50	
Block System Survey	250.00	
	<hr/>	\$ 17,446.50

General Accounts:

Miscellaneous Expenses	\$ 3,000.00	
Municipal Building Maintenance	3,000.00	
Central Fire Station Maintenance	850.00	
Lighting G. A. R. Rooms	25.00	
Lighting Victory House	200.00	
Insurance	9,000.00	
Interest	(19,142.50	
	<hr/>	\$ 35,217.50

PROTECTION OF PERSONS AND PROPERTY

Police Department, Salaries	\$ 13,500.00	
Expenses	2,048.00	
Fire Dept., Salaries	8,800.00	
Call Men	2,765.00	
Expenses	3,500.00	
Fire Alarm, Supt.'s Salary	100.00	
Maintenance	775.00	
Moth Department Maintenance	6,400.00	
Forest Warden Maintenance	200.00	
Tree Warden Maintenance	1,500.00	
Inspector of Wires, Salary	100.00	
Inspector of Buildings, Salary	300.00	
Sealer of Weights and Measures, Salary	400.00	
Sealer of Weights and Measures, Expenses	100.00	
Hydrant Rentals	6,060.00	
	<hr/>	\$ 46,548.00

HEALTH AND SANITATION

Board of Health, Salaries	\$ 250 00	
Board of Health, Expenses	300.00	
Inspector of Plumbing, Salary	700.00	
Inspector of Milk, Salary	100.00	
Inspector of Animals, Salary	200.00	
Care Contagious Diseases	1,200.00	
Garbage Removal	1,600.00	
	<hr/>	\$ 4,350.00

HIGHWAYS, SIDEWALKS, Etc.

Highway Maintenance	\$ 50,000.00	
Snow and Ice Removal	7,500.00	
Drainage Ditches	3,000.00	
Street Lighting	14,800.00	
	<hr/>	\$ 75,300.00

CHARITIES AND AID

Overseers of Poor, Clerical	\$ 352.00	
Overseers of Poor, Visitor	400 00	
Poor Department, Outside Relief, etc.	5,000.00	
Board and Care	2,500.00	
Mothers' Aid, Town of Reading	1,500.00	
Mothers' Aid, Comm. of Mass.	2,500 00	
Temporary Aid, Comm. of Mass.	1,800.00	
	<hr/>	\$ 14,052.00

SOLDIERS' BENEFITS

Soldiers' Relief	\$ 4,000.00	
Military Aid	300.00	
State Aid	700.00	
	<hr/>	\$ 5,000.00

EDUCATION

School Department: Salaries, General Acct.:	\$107,867.00	
Expenses, Gen'l Acct.	33,000.00	
Salaries, Agr. Acct.	4,800.00	
Expenses, Agr. Acct.	1,000.00	
Vocational Tuition	500.00	
Public Library, Salaries	2,050.00	
Public Library, Expenses	3,050.00	
	<hr/>	\$152,267.00

RECREATION

Care Common and Parks and Supervised Play ..	\$ 2,370.00
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CEMETERIES

Laurel Hill Cemetery	\$ 8,553.82
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SPECIAL APPROPRIATIONS

Memorial Day Observance	\$ 300.00
Drinking Fountains	100.00
Reserve Fund	2,000.00
Rent G. A. R. Rooms	336.00
Flag Pole	500.00
Collector's Special	150.00
Fire Alarm Boxes	1,320.00

Child Welfare Work	290.00	
Bureau of Agriculture	150.00	
Care of Soldiers' Graves	875.00	
		6,021.00
Total Appropriations		\$367,125.82

APPROPRIATIONS NOT FROM TAX LEVY

Overdrafts from 1922

Taxes on Property Taken	\$ 705.83	
Sewer Assessments on Property Taken	189.00	
Poor Department Maintenance	528.45	
		\$ 1,423.28

Note: Appropriated from Excess and Deficiency Account.

RECAPITULATION

Town Expenses	\$367,125.82	
State Taxes and Assessments	33,042.10	
County Tax	12,627.83	
Civilian War Poll Tax	7,107.00	
		\$419,920.75
Overlay		5,577.79
		\$425,498.54

VALUATION

1923

Real Estate	\$ 9,086,055.00
Personal Estate	1,294,848.00
Total Valuation	\$10,380,903.00
Assessed @ \$32.30	
Real Estate Tax	\$ 293,483.49
Personal Estate Tax ..	41,826.82
	\$ 335,310.31
Poll Tax 2375 @ \$5	11,875.00
	\$ 347,185.31

APPROPRIATIONS

1923

Town Expenses	\$367,125.82
State & County Tax- es, etc.	22,977.18
Civilian War Poll Tax	7,125.00
Overlay	5,577.79
	\$425,498.54
Less	
Estimated Receipts ..	78,313.23
	\$347,185.31

December Commitment

Real Estate	\$ 23,780.00
Personal Estate	5,600.00
	\$ 29,380.00
Polls 15 @ \$5.00	

Real Estate Tax ..	\$ 768.13
Personal Estate Tax	180.90
Poll Tax	75.00
Total Taxes	\$ 1,024.03

**STATE AND COUNTY TAXES, ASSESSMENTS, ETC.
1923**

Commonwealth of Massachusetts:

State Tax	\$ 20,520.00	
State Highway Tax, Sec. 16, Chap. 81, Gen. Laws	2,318.99	
Fire Prevention Tax, Sec. 29, Chap. 148, Gen. Laws	99.02	
Civilian War Poll Tax, Chap. 283, Acts 1919	7,170.00	
Municipal Lighting Tax, Sec. 11, Chap. 25, Gen. Laws		
(Reimbursed by Municipal Light Dept.)	39.17	
National Bank Tax	574.91	
Corporation Tax	31.03	
Metropolitan Sewerage Assessments		
(Reimbursed by Sewer Dept.)	10,064.92	
County of Middlesex, County Tax	12,627.83	
		<hr/>
		\$ 53,445.87

**ACCOUNTING, TAXES AND ASSESSMENTS
TAXES 1918**

Balance uncollected Jan. 1, 1923	\$ 146.88	
Collected 1923		146.88
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	\$ 146.88	\$ 146.88

TAXES 1919

Balance uncollected Jan. 1, 1923	\$ 209.16	
Collected 1923		209.16
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	\$ 209.16	\$ 209.16

TAXES 1920

Balance uncollected Jan. 1, 1923	\$ 305.21	
Transfer from Moth Acct. to correct	9.20	
Collected 1923		65.08
Balance uncollected Dec. 31, 1923		249.33
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	\$ 314.41	\$ 314.41

TAXES 1921

Balance uncollected Jan. 1, 1923	\$ 30,307.13	
Transfer from Moth Acct. to correct	18.25	
Collected 1923		28,464.40
Abatements		160.21
Transfer, Tax Titles Acct.		1,471.38
Balance uncollected Dec. 31, 1923		229.39
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	\$ 30,325.58	\$ 30,325.58

TAXES 1922

Balance uncollected Jan. 1, 1923	\$ 96,469.88	
Transfer from Moth and Int. Acct. to correct ..	57.50	
Collected 1923		92,922.41
Abatements		996.88
Transfer, Tax Titles Acct.		783.64
Balance uncollected Dec. 31, 1923 ...		1,824.45
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	\$ 96,527.38	\$ 96,527.38

TAXES 1923

Commitment Sept.	\$347,185.31	
Commitment Dec.	1,024.03	
Collected		239,354.18
Abatements		2,968.64
Balance uncollected Dec. 31, 1923		105,886.52
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	\$348,209.34	\$348,209.34

MOTH 1921

Balance uncollected Jan. 1, 1923	\$ 121.75	
Collected 1923		103.50
Transfer, Taxes to correct		18.25
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	\$ 121.75	\$ 121.75

MOTH 1922

Balance uncollected Jan. 1, 1923	\$ 452.75	
Collected 1923		395.25
Transfer, Taxes 1922 to correct.....		57.50
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	\$ 452.75	\$ 452.75

MOTH 1923

Commitment	\$ 1,282.00	
Collected 1923		872.50
Balance uncollected Dec. 31, 1923		409.50
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	\$ 1,282.00	\$ 1,282.00

SIDEWALK ASSESSMENTS

Commitment 1923	\$ 209.82	
Collected 1923		166.42
Balance uncollected Dec. 31, 1923		43.40
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	\$ 209.82	\$ 209.82

SEWER ASSESSMENTS**Unapportioned**

Balance uncollected Jan. 1, 1923	\$ 8,771.94	
Commitment 1923	243.00	
Interest 1923	242.10	
Collected 1923		6,410.75
Apportioned 1923		128.73
Abatements 1923		90.86
Cancelled		1,793.23
Transfer, Tax Titles Acct.		716.52
Transfer, to correct		27.60
Balance uncollected Dec. 31, 1923		89.35
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	\$ 9,257.04	\$ 9,257.04

SEWER ASSESSMENTS**Apportionment of 1922**

Balance uncollected Jan. 1, 1923	\$ 711.30	
Transfer to correct	36.09	
Collected 1923		747.39
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	\$ 747.39	\$ 747.39

INTEREST ON SEWER ASSESSMENTS**Apportionment of 1922**

Balance uncollected Jan. 1, 1923	\$ 153.55	
Transfer to correct	7.60	
Collected		161.15
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	\$ 161.15	\$ 161.15

SEWER ASSESSMENTS**Apportionment of 1923**

Commitment 1923	\$ 2,244.92	
Collected 1923		1,498.24
Transfer to correct		12.87
Balance uncollected Dec. 31, 1923		733.81
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	\$ 2,244.92	\$ 2,244.92

INTEREST ON SEWER ASSESSMENTS**Apportionment of 1923**

Commitment	\$ 834.69	
Collected		509.01
Transfer to correct		3.22
Balance uncollected Dec. 31, 1923		322.46
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	\$ 834.69	\$ 834.69

SEWER ASSESSMENTS**Apportionment of 1923**

Balance Jan. 1, 1923	\$ 2,236.01	
Additional Apportionment	25.74	
Collected to Sept. 1, 1923		16.83
Commitment to Collector		2,244.92
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	\$ 2,261.75	\$2,261.75

SEWER ASSESSMENTS**Apportionment of 1924**

Balance Jan. 1, 1923	\$ 1,982.17	
Additional Apportionment	12.87	
Collected, advance payments 1923		24.09
Balance Dec. 31, 1923		1,970.95
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	\$ 1,995.04	\$ 1,995.04

SEWER ASSESSMENTS**Apportionment of 1925**

Balance Jan. 1, 1923	\$ 1,893.85	
Additional Apportionment	12.87	
Collected, advance payments 1923		24.09
Balance Dec. 31, 1923		1,882.63
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	\$ 1,906.72	\$ 1,906.72

SEWER ASSESSMENTS**Apportionment of 1926**

Balance Jan. 1, 1923	\$ 1,677.17	
Additional Apportionment	12.87	
Collected, advance payments 1923		24.09
Balance Dec. 31, 1923		1,665.95
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	\$ 1,690.04	\$ 1,690.04

SEWER ASSESSMENTS**Apportionment of 1927**

Balance Jan. 1, 1923	\$ 1,260.74	
Additional Apportionment	12.87	
Collected, advance payments 1923		24.09
Balance Dec. 31, 1923		1,249.52
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	\$ 1,273.61	\$ 1,273.61

SEWER ASSESSMENTS**Apportionment of 1928**

Balance Jan. 1, 1923	\$ 1,210.66	
Additional Apportionment	12.87	
Collected, advance payments 1923		24.09
Balance Dec. 31, 1923		1,199.44
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	\$ 1,223.53	\$ 1,223.53

SEWER ASSESSMENTS**Apportionment of 1929**

Balance Jan. 1, 1923	\$ 1,210.66	
Additional Apportionment	12.87	
Collected, advance payments 1923		24.09
Balance Dec. 31, 1923		1,199.44
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	\$ 1,223.53	\$ 1,223.53

SEWER ASSESSMENTS**Apportionment of 1930**

Balance Jan. 1, 1923	\$ 1,210.66	
Additional Apportionment	12.87	
Collected, advance payment 1923		24.09
Balance Dec. 31, 1923		1,199.44
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	\$ 1,223.53	\$ 1,223.53

SEWER ASSESSMENTS**Apportionment of 1931**

Balance Jan. 1, 1923	\$ 1,211.12	
Additional Apportionment	12.90	
Collected, advance payments 1923		24.10
Balance Dec. 31, 1923		1,199.92
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	\$ 1,224.02	\$ 1,224.02

OVERLAY 1918

Balance Jan. 1, 1923		\$ 146.88
Transferred to Overlay Reserve Fund	\$ 146.88	
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	\$ 146.88	\$ 146.88

OVERLAY 1919

Balance Jan. 1, 1923		\$ 209.16
Transferred to Overlay Reserve Fund	\$ 209.16	
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	\$ 209.16	\$ 209.16

OVERLAY 1920

Balance Jan. 1, 1923		\$ 305.21
Transferred to Overlay Reserve Fund	55.88	
Balance to 1924	249.33	
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	\$ 305.21	\$ 305.21

OVERLAY 1921

Balance Jan. 1, 1923		\$ 404.94
Abatements 1923	160.21	
Transferred to Overlay Reserve Fund	15.34	
Balance to 1924	229.39	
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	\$ 404.94	\$ 404.94

OVERLAY 1922

Balance Jan. 1, 1923		\$ 994.69
Abatements 1923	1,035.94	
Balance to 1924, Overdraft		41.25
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	\$ 1,035.94	\$ 1,035.94

OVERLAY 1923

Appropriation		\$ 5,577.79
December Commitment		1,024.03
Abatements 1922	2,976.72	
Balance to 1923	3,625.10	
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	\$ 6,601.82	\$ 6,601.82

OVERLAY RESERVE FUND

Balance Jan. 1, 1923		\$ 864.38
Transferred from 1918		146.88
Transferred from 1919		209.16
Transferred from 1920		55.88
Transferred from 1921		15.34
Transferred to Reserve Fund	864.38	
Balance to 1924	427.26	
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	\$ 1,291.64	\$ 1,291.64

DEPARTMENTAL ACCOUNTS RECEIVABLE**POOR DEPARTMENT****Mother's Aid**

Balance due from Comm. of Mass., Jan. 1, 1923	\$ 1,651.94	
Payments 1923	2,189.34	
Received from Comm.		2,231.86
Balance due from Comm. Dec. 31, 1923		1,609.42
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	\$ 3,841.28	\$ 3,841.28

Temporary Aid

Balance due from Comm. of Mass, Jan. 1, 1923	\$ 1,731.45	
Payments 1923	1,912.05	
Received from Comm.		1,731.45
Balance due from Comm., Dec. 31, 1923		1,912.05
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	\$ 3,643.50	\$ 3,643.50

CITY OF BOSTON**Overseers of Public Welfare**

Balance due Jan. 1, 1923	\$ 303.00	
Received		303.00
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	\$ 303.00	\$ 303.00

CITY OF CAMBRIDGE**Overseers of Public Welfare**

Balance due Jan. 1, 1923	\$ 481.65	
Charged in 1923	87.85	
Received		569.50
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	\$ 569.50	\$ 569.50

SOLDIERS' BENEFITS**STATE AID**

Balance due from Comm. of Mass., Jan. 1, 1923 ..	\$ 524.00	
Payments, 1923	462.00	
Received from Comm.		602.00
Balance due from Comm.		384.00
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	\$ 986.00	\$ 986.00

HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Balance due from Sundry Parties Jan. 1, 1923	\$ 381.50	
Charged to Sundry Parties, 1923	208.20	
Received from ditto		52.20
Balance due from ditto		537.50
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	\$ 589.70	\$ 589.70

SCHOOL DEPARTMENT, TUITION**Town of North Reading**

Balance due Jan. 1, 1923	\$ 1,387.85	
Charged in 1923	5,825.31	
Received		7,213.16
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	\$ 7,213.16	\$ 7,213.16

Town of Wilmington

Charged in 1923	\$	186.34	
Received			124.23
Balance due Dec. 31, 1923			62.11
		<hr/>	<hr/>
	\$	186.34	\$ 186.34

City of Melrose

Balance due Jan. 1, 1923	\$	179.05	
Charged in 1923		624.77	
Received			617.49
Balance due Dec. 31, 1923			186.32
		<hr/>	<hr/>
	\$	803.82	\$ 803.82

Sundry Parties

Charged in 1923	\$	510.00	
Received			379.00
Balance due Dec. 31, 1923			131.00
		<hr/>	<hr/>
	\$	510.00	\$ 510.00

FEDERAL BOARD VOCATIONAL EDUCATION**U. S. Veterans' Bureau**

Balance Jan. 1, 1923	\$	2,273.18	
Charged in 1923		2,788.43	
Received			3,980.76
Balance due Dec. 31, 1923			1,080.85
		<hr/>	<hr/>
	\$	5,061.61	\$ 5,061.61

Town of Tewksbury

Balance Jan. 1, 1923	\$	163.85	
Charged in 1923		428.45	
Received			530.19
Balance due Dec. 31, 1923			62.11
		<hr/>	<hr/>
	\$	592.30	\$ 592.30

City of Boston**City Minor Wards**

Balance Jan. 1, 1923	\$	1,857.08	
Charged in 1923		756.32	
Received			1,293.39
Balance due Dec. 31, 1923			1,320.01
		<hr/>	<hr/>
	\$	2,613.40	\$ 2,613.40

Commonwealth of Massachusetts**State Minor Wards**

Balance Jan. 1, 1923	\$ 1,898.78	
Charged in 1923	1,513.39	
Received		2,707.97
Balance due Dec. 31, 1923		704.20
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	\$ 3,412.17	\$ 3,412.17

MOTH DEPARTMENT**Moth Bills 1922**

Balance Jan. 1, 1923 charged in 1922	\$ 1,919.20	
Charged to balance	1.50	
Received to Aug. 25, 1923		638.70
Committed to Collector		1,282.00
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	\$ 1,920.70	\$ 1,920.70

Moth Bills 1923

Charged in 1923 (work done in 1923)	\$ 2,442.00	
Received		756.75
Credits		4.00
Balance uncollected Dec. 31, 1923		1,681.25
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	\$ 2,442.00	\$ 2,442.00

CEMETERY DEPARTMENT**Care of Lots, Etc.**

Balance Jan. 1, 1923	\$ 201.11	
Additional Charges for 1922	19.70	
Charged in 1923	3,083.93	
Received		2,604.38
Balance uncollected Dec. 31, 1923		700.36
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	\$ 3,304.74	\$ 3,304.74

HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT**Sidewalk Construction**

Balance Jan. 1, 1923	\$ 342.75	
Charged in 1923	101.96	
Received		144.48
Cancelled		21.11
Committed to Collector		209.82
Balance Dec. 31, 1923		69.30
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	\$ 444.71	\$ 444.71

SEALER OF WEIGHTS AND MEASURES

Balance Jan. 1, 1923	\$	8.40		
Charged in 1923		68.16		
Received				52.81
Cancelled .....				.72
Balance due Dec. 31, 1923				23.03
	\$	76.56	\$	76.56

FIRE DEPARTMENT

Balance Jan. 1, 1923	\$	56.00		
Charged in 1923		108.48		
Received				114.48
Balance due Dec. 31, 1923				50.00
	\$	164.48	\$	164.48

SUNDRY DEPARTMENTAL ACCOUNTS

Balance Jan. 1, 1923	\$	54.00		
Charged in 1923		168.00		
Received				80.00
Balance due Dec. 31, 1923				142.00
	\$	222.00	\$	222.00

TOTAL DEPARTMENTAL ACCOUNTS

Receivable Dec. 31, 1923	\$	10,655.52
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WATER DEPARTMENT
Accounts Receivable**Dr.**

Balance Jan. 1, 1923	\$	663.31
Meter rates, etc., charged in 1923		41,142.66

Cr.

Receipts 1923		41,231.75
Abatements		362.72
Bills uncollectible		
Balance Dec. 31, 1923		211.49
	\$	41,805.97
	\$	41,805.97

MUNICIPAL LIGHT DEPARTMENT**Accounts Receivable****Dr.**

Balance Jan. 1, 1923	\$	18,634.45
Light, Power, etc., charged in 1923		215,543.32

220

Cr.

Receipts 1923	197,518.62
Discounts and Credits	13,450.63
Bills uncollectible, charged off	1,290.24
Balance Dec. 31, 1923	21,918.28
	<hr/>
	\$234,177.77
	\$234,177.77

CEMETERY RESERVE FUND

Cr.

Balance Jan. 1, 1923	\$ 577.11
Receipts, Sale Lots and Graves	3,011.00

Dr.

Transferred to Laurel Hill Cemetery Account ..	2,129.28
Balance to 1924	1,458.83
	<hr/>
	\$ 3,588.11
	\$ 3,588.11

INSURANCE ACCOUNT—SPECIAL

Cr.

Balance Jan. 1, 1923	\$ 28.75
Receipts Various Parties, payments on loss	63.24

Dr.

Paid Stewart & Robertson	71.00
Balance to 1924	20.99
	<hr/>
	\$ 91.99
	\$ 91.99

TAX TITLES HELD BY TOWN

Dr.

Taxes, assessments, interest and costs on property taken on 1916 to 1920 levies	\$ 1,567.61
Ditto on 1921 levy	1,690.20
Ditto on 1922 levy	1,659.47

Cr.

Redemption of property 1923	959.24
Balance to 1924	3,958.04
	<hr/>
	\$ 4,917.28
	\$ 4,917.28

EXCESS AND DEFICIENCY ACCOUNT

Cr.

Balance Jan. 1, 1923	\$ 15,448.78
Transferred Tax Title Revenue	959.24
Transferred Sewer Assessment Revenue	716.52
Transferred Revenue Acct.	20,241.54

Dr.

Transferred to Maturing Debt. Acct.	12,500.00	
Transferred to Poor Dept. Acct.	528.45	
Transferred to Taxes on Property Taken	705.83	
Transferred to Sewer Assessment on Property Taken	189.00	
Transferred to Tax Titles Revenue	3,004.24	
Transferred to Reserve Fund	1,500.00	
Balance to 1924	18,938.56	
	<hr/>	
	\$ 37,366.08	\$ 37,366.08

RESERVE FUND

Cr.

Balance Jan. 1, 1923	\$ 42.13
Appropriation	2,000.00
Appropriation Transfer from E. & D. Acct.	1,500.00
Appropriation Transfer from Overlay Reserve ..	864.38

Dr.

Transfer to Treasurer's Expense	\$ 31.68	
Transfer to Collector's Expense	72.63	
Transfer to Miscellaneous Expense	1,001.54	
Transfer Central Fire Station Expense	15.00	
Transfer Police Dept., Maintenance	158.35	
Transfer Fire Dept. Maintenance	260.63	
Transfer School Dept. Gen'l Maintenance	2,850.18	
Balance to 1924	16.50	
	<hr/>	
	\$ 4,406.51	\$ 4,406.51

APPROPRIATION ACCOUNTS

Moderator's Salary

Cr.

Appropriation	\$ 60.00
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Dr.

Jesse W. Morton	\$ 60.00	
	<hr/>	
	\$ 60.00	\$ 60.00

Selectmen's Expenses

Cr.

Appropriation	\$ 300.00
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Dr.

C. F. Atkinson, Services	\$ 10.00
L. G. Bent, Expenses	1.20

L. G. Bent, Perambulating Town Lines	20 00	
Helen A. Brown, Services	20.00	
Commercial Art Studio, Signs	3.75	
L. M. Cook, Copying	1.00	
Effie C. Currell, Services	8 00	
Hobbs & Warren, Stationery	1.50	
Margaret Hunt, Copying	3.37	
H. B. McArdle, Stationery	3.50	
New Eng. Tel. & Tel. Co.	59.29	
New England Towel Supply Co.	16.80	
J. Fred Richardson, Perambulating Town Lines	20.00	
Royal Typewriter Co.	35.00	
L. C. Smith & Bro. Typewriter Co.	2.00	
W. E. & J. F. Twombly, Printing	43.18	
United States Post Office, Box rent	3.00	
Chas. F. Young & Co., Decorating	25 00	
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Total Payments	276.59	
Balance to Revenue	23.41	
<hr/>		
	\$ 300.00	\$ 300.00

Selectmen's Clerical

Cr.

Appropriation		\$ 1,310.00
<hr/>		
Dr.		
Mabel M. Strout	\$ 208.00	
Leon G. Bent	1,102.00	
<hr/>		
	\$ 1,310.00	\$ 1,310.00

Accountant's Salary

Cr.

Appropriation		\$ 1,000.00
<hr/>		
Dr.		
Leon G. Bent	\$ 1,000 00	
<hr/>		
	\$1,000.00	\$ 1,000.00

Treasurer's Salary

Cr.

Appropriation		\$ 1,000.00
<hr/>		
Dr.		
Henry H. Kinsley	\$ 1,000.00	
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	\$1,000.00	\$ 1,000.00

Treasurer's Expenses

Cr.

Appropriation	\$	400.00
Transferred from Reserve Fund		31.68

Dr.

Allen Bros., Stamps	\$	6.00
M. F. Charles, Stationery		12.80
Comm. of Mass., Certifying Bonds, etc.		42.00
Cummings Express Co. ....		.60
Mosler Safe Co., Repairs		22.76
New England Tel. & Tel. Co.		40.82
Prentiss & Parker, Treasurer's Bond		75.00
L. J. Poore, Printing		1.85
James T. Towhill Co., Stationery		22.75
Thorp & Martin Co., Stationery		4.49
W. E. & J. F. Twombly, Printing		92.34
United States Post Office, Postage		90.27
Wax Brothers, Flowers		20.00

Total Payments	431.68
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\$	431.68	\$	431.68
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Tax Collector's Salary

Cr.

Appropriation	\$	2,000.00
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Dr.

Grace V. Viall	\$	2,000.00
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\$	2,000.00	\$	2,000.00
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Tax Collector's Clerical

Cr.

Appropriation	\$	150.00
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Dr.

Christine F. Atkinson	\$	89.50
Vera Y. Cobb		37.75

Total Payments	\$	127.25
Balance to Revenue		22.75

\$	150.00	\$	150.00
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Tax Collector's Expenses

Cr.

Appropriation	\$	650.00
Transferred from Reserve Fund		72.63

Dr.

Cummings Express Co. ....	\$	.35		
M. F. Charles, Stationery		1.85		
C. W. Crafts, Stationery		103.75		
Dalton Adding Machine Co.		51.50		
Hobbs & Warren, Stationery		12.28		
Mosler Safe Co.		12.76		
New England Tel. & Tel. Co.		31.77		
New England Towel Supply Co.		6.60		
Prentiss & Parker, Collector's Bond		100.00		
W. E. & J. F. Twombly, Printing		169.20		
United States Post Office, Postage		208.67		
Grace V. Viall, Expenses		23.90		
		<hr/>		
Total Payments	\$	722.63	\$	722.63

Assessors' Salaries**Cr.**

Appropriation		\$	1,800.00
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Dr.

Alvah W. Clark	\$	800.00		
J. Fred Richardson		700.00		
Edw. B. Eames		300.00		
		<hr/>		
Total Payments	\$	1,800.00	\$	1,800.00

Assessors' Clerical**Cr.**

Appropriation		\$	1,144.00
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Dr.

Christine F. Atkinson	\$	1,144.00		
		<hr/>		
	\$	1,144.00	\$	1,144.00

Assessors' Expense**Cr.**

Appropriation		\$	1,000.00
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Dr.

Am. Railway Exp. Co.	\$	1.43		
Blackbird Pen Co.		3.50		
A. Brownell Corp'n, Stationery		3.00		
Cummings Express Co.		1.05		
M. F. Charles, Stationery .....		.85		
Alvah W. Clark, Auto expenses		40.00		
Dalton Adding Machine Co., Stand		11.50		
Hobbs & Warren, Stationery		1.45		

Municipal Light Dept.	3.55	
Library Bureau, Cards	149.78	
Model Typewriter Co.	65.00	
New England Tel. & Tel. Co.	31.40	
New England Towel Supply Co.	6.60	
Quality Press, Printing	14.41	
J. Fred Richardson, Auto Expense	00'07	.....
Senbusch Co., Ink wells	5.69	
W. E. & J. F. Twombly, Printing	617.89	
United States Post Office, Postage	2.00	
<hr/>		
Total Payments	\$ 999.10	
Balance to Revenue .....	.90	
<hr/>		
	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,000.00

BLOCK SYSTEM SURVEY**Cr.**

Balance from 1922	\$ 3.19
Appropriation	250.00

Dr.

Davis & Abbott, Services	\$ 219.53	
Balance to 1924	33.66	
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	\$ 253.19	\$ 253.19

Town Counsel's Salary**Cr.**

Appropriation	\$ 500.00
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Dr.

Jesse W. Morton	\$ 500.00	
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	\$ 500.00	\$ 500.00

Town Clerk's Salary**Cr.**

Appropriation	\$ 200.00
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Dr.

Millard F. Charles	\$ 200.00	
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	\$ 200.00	\$ 200.00

Town Clerk's Expenses**Cr.**

Appropriation	\$ 500.00
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Dr.

Christine F. Atkinson, Canvassing births	\$	60.00
M. F. Charles, Stationery and Fees		343.19
Carter Ink Co., Ink		7.10
P. B. Murphy, Printing		11.45
W. E. & J. F. Twombly, Printing		29.70
Various Parties, Returns, births and deaths		42.25

Total Payments	\$	493.69
Balance to Revenue		6.31

\$	500.00	\$	500.00
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BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS

Cr.

Appropriation	\$	4,512.50
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Dr.

H. B. Collins, Salary	\$	3,000.00
Clerical, Salaries		677.33
American City		2.65
Abbott & McKay		44.03
C. L. Berger Mfg. Co.		23.00
Bobbs-Merrill Co.		5.00
Burroughs Adding Machine Co.		200.00
E. A. Carpenter		92.00
S. S. Cohen		7.21
C. W. Crafts		9.60
E. B. Currell & Son		77.85
McPherson Daniel		1.00
Dennison Mfg. Co. ....		.26
Francis Brothers .....		.85
Hodson Brothers		2.75
C. J. Jaquith		11.20
Old Corner Book Store		2.50
B. I. Makepeace, Inc. ....		.35
Prentiss & Parker		12.50
New England Tel. & Tel. Co.		104.30
Reading Tire Shop		15.25
Registry of Motor Vehicles		12.00
S. M. Spencer Mfg. Co. ....		.77
H. L. Stearns Desk Co.		3.93
Thorp & Martin Co.		23.42
W. E. & J. F. Twombly		85.25
United States Post Office		4.88
Western School of E. & P. R.		10.00

Yawman & Erbe Mfg. Co.	37.45	
Total Payments	\$ 4,467.33	
Balance to Revenue	45.17	
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	\$ 4,512.50	\$ 4,512.50

BOARD OF REGISTRARS**Salaries****Cr.**

Appropriation	\$ 170.00
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Dr.

Owen McKenney, Ch.	\$ 40.00	
Arthur C. Copeland	20.00	
Walter S. Prentiss	40.00	
Preston F. Nichols	20.00	
Millard F. Charles, clerk	50.00	
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	\$ 170.00	\$ 170.00

Election Expenses**Cr.**

Appropriation	\$ 500.00
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Dr.

Election Officers	\$ 88.00	
Clapp & Leach, Wiring	5.60	
A. C. Graupner, Jr., Services	2.00	
Highway Dept., Moving booths	7.49	
Security Lodge, I. O. O. F., Rent	65.00	
W. E. & J. F. Twombly, Printing	102.00	
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total Payments	\$ 270.09	
Balance to Revenue	229.91	
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	\$ 500.00	\$ 500.00

Miscellaneous Expense**Cr.**

Appropriation	\$ 3,000.00
Transferred from Reserve Fund	1,001.54

Dr.

Allen Brothers, Stationery	\$ 5.01	
C. F. Atkinson, Copying	10.50	
L. G. Bent, Sec'y Finance Committee	50.00	
L. G. Bent, Expenses	1.25	

Blackbird Pen Co., Pens	7.00	
M. F. Charles, Stationery	5.60	
R. D. Clapp, Keys .....	.40	
S. S. Cohen, Stationery	2.50	
Comm. of Mass., Land Court expense	300.00	
County of Middlesex, Lowell St. bridge	175.00	
C. W. Crafts, Stationery	67.25	
Cummings Express Co. ....	.35	
Dalton Adding Machine Co.	205.00	
A. Doucette, Labor	2.00	
H. W. Dubois & Co., Stationery	6.10	
Jos. Finberg, Treas. Planning Board	10.00	
G. H. Flint, Supplies	3.10	
Hobbs & Warren, Stationery	2.24	
Hodson Brothers, Repairs Rich. House	38.00	
H. B. McArdle, Stationery	28.30	
Norman A. McLeod, Personal injury	75.00	
H. M. Meserve & Co., Stationery	12.21	
Municipal Light Dept.		
Reading Sign	109.87	
Old South Clock	198.25	
Old South M. E. Society, Care clock	50.00	
Prentiss & Parker, Accountant's Bond	18.00	
Sewer Dept., Rich. House	8.27	
Percy N. Sweetser, Mt. Vernon St., property	28.00	
Ed'ah Shaw	447.00	
Charles N. Smart, Ventilator	5.75	
Stewart & Robertson, Repairs Parker Tavern	96.91	
Thorp & Martin Co., Stationery	4.90	
James T. Towhill Co., Stationery	68.57	
W. E. & J. F. Twombly, Printing	1,729.39	
A. Zanni & Co., Rich. House	21.00	
Water Dept., Rich. House	13.20	
W. H. Wightman & Co., Mt. Vernon St. property	6.00	
Yawman & Erbe Mfg. Co., Filing cabinet	114.62	
Charles F. Young & Co., Decorating, etc.	75.00	
Total Payments	\$ 4,001.54	\$ 4,001.54

MUNICIPAL BUILDING—Maintenance

Cr.

Appropriation	\$ 3,000.00
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Dr.

Charles H. Stinchfield, Salary	\$ 806.00
G. H. Atkinson Co., Supplies15
O. W. Austin, Repairs	1.50

Barrett Company, Acct. Driveway	175.00	
G. W. Bent Co., Chair seat	6.13	
R. D. Clapp, Repairs	2.55	
E. B. Currell & Son, Repairs	23.90	
Cummings Express Co.	1.95	
H. I. Daliman Co., Supplies	4.31	
William J. Day & Co., Resurfacing floors	128.00	
G. B. Dolge Co., Supplies	12.75	
T. C. Fife, Repairs	332.87	
Francis Brothers, Repairs	10.99	
General Crushed Stone Co., Acct. Driveway	131.95	
Mrs. Etta D. Hadley, Cleaning	1 50	
Highway Dept., Acct. Driveway	140.58	
William Keleh, Teaming	1.50	
W. H. Killam, Services	45.60	
Malden & Melrose Gas Light Co.	3.86	
H. B. McArdle, Stationery	4.75	
George L. Melanson, Flag Pole expense	10.00	
Municipal Light Dept., Fuel and light	661.83	
George W. Reinhardt Co., Supplies	13 50	
Rochester Germicide Co., Supplies	22.50	
Sewer Dept.	23.70	
Percy N. Sweetser, Fuel	279.04	
Water Dept.	26 30	
Willis Co., Supplies	2.21	
		<hr/>
Total Payments	\$ 2,874.92	
Balance to Revenue	125.08	
		<hr/>
	\$ 3,000.00	\$ 3,000.00

CENTRAL FIRE STATION

Maintenance Fire & Police Headquarters

Cr.

Appropriation	\$ 850.00
Transferred from Reserve Fund	15.00

Dr.

Frank A. Butters, Repairs	\$ 4.50
T. C. Fife, Repairs	24.10
Highway Dept., Trucking	12.10
A. W. Hastings, Repairs	26 00
Hodson Bros., Repairs	35.67
Municipal Light Dept., Fuel and light	488.73
F. F. Smith, Supplies	3.37

Percy N. Sweetser, Fuel	234.13		
Water Dept.	36.40		
Total Payments	\$ 865.00		
	\$ 865.00	\$	865.00

LIGHTING VICTORY HOUSE
Reading Post No. 62, American Legion

	Cr.		
Appropriation		\$	200.00
	Dr.		
Municipal Light Dept.	\$ 173.72		
Balance to Revenue	26.28		
	\$ 200.00	\$	200.00

LIGHTING G. A. R. ROOMS
Veteran Post 194

	Cr.		
Appropriation		\$	25.00
	Dr.		
Municipal Light Dept.	\$ 12.28		
Balance to Revenue	12.72		
	\$ 25.00	\$	25.00

Rent G. A. R. Rooms

	Cr.		
Appropriation		\$	336.00
	Dr.		
Mahlon E. Brande	\$ 336.00		
	\$ 336.00	\$	336.00

POLICE DEPARTMENT

Salaries

	Cr.		
Appropriation		\$	13,500.00
	Dr.		
Jeremiah Cullinane, Chief	\$ 2,000.00		
Timothy J. Cullinane	1,700.00		
Frank R. Fisher	980.83		
Patrick J. Long	1,700.00		

Oscar H. Low	1,700.00	
William H. O'Brien	1,700.00	
Daniel T. Scanlon	1,500.00	
Francis T. Slack	1,700.00	
Special Officers, Pay Roll	326.78	
Town of Wilmington	15.00	
City of Woburn	55.00	
Balance to Revenue	122.39	
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	\$ 13,500.00	\$ 13,500.00

INSURANCE

Cr.

Appropriation		\$ 9,000.00
Rebates		172.49
Municipal Light Dept. Transfer		400 02
Water Dept. Transfer		278.57
Sewer Dept. Transfer		103.71

Dr.

Robert S. Burgess	\$	146.25	
Harry U. Camp		195 00	
Arthur S. Cook		585.00	
Louis Davis		1,883.81	
George E. Horrocks		877.50	
Irving F. Jewett		219.38	
Kingman & Richardson		1,744.64	
Prentiss & Parker		3,293.54	
Charles E. Reck		487.50	
Fleming-Hughes-Rogers, Inc.		18.25	
Arthur E. Roberts		243.75	
W. H. Wightman & Co.		729.49	
	<hr/>		
Total Payments	\$	10,424.11	
Overdraft to 1924			469.32
	<hr/>	<hr/>	
	\$	10,424.11	\$ 10,424.11

POLICE DEPARTMENT—Maintenance

Cr.

Appropriation	\$	2,048.00
Transferred from Reserve Fund		158.35

Dr.

Auto List Publishing Co.	\$	35.00
Allen Brothers, Supplies		30.16
American Woolen Co., Blankets		16.91
G. H. Atkinson Co., Supplies		14.25

J. W. Austin, Supplies	1.98	
J. H. Bolton & Co., Supplies	1.25	
Boston Regalia Co., Supplies	15.00	
William J. Brown, M.D., Services	5.00	
Central Garage, Auto expense	223.42	
M. F. Charles, Stationery	20.93	
R. D. Clapp, Supplies .....	.70	
Clapp & Leach, Supplies	4.90	
Jeremiah Cullinane, Expenses	55.10	
Cummings Express Co. ....	.40	
T. C. Fife, Repairs .....	.25	
Gibby Stencil Illuminating Co., Street signal	40.00	
Kenney's Service Station, Auto expense	3.00	
M. Linskey & Bros., Supplies	23.55	
McDonald & Hobart, Auto expenses	2.40	
Municipal Light Dept., Supplies	3.33	
New England Tel. & Tel. Co.	110.73	
Wm. Read & Sons Co., Supplies	92.92	
Reading Inn Cafe, Supplies	12.65	
Reading Garage Service Station, Auto expense	82.60	
Reading Visiting Nurse Association	2.50	
Registry of Motor Vehicles	10.00	
J. W. Sias, Labor	3.00	
Stevens & Gray, Auto	1,135.75	
Superior Welding Co., Repairs	1.68	
G. E. Temple Mfg. Co., Refitting auto	175.00	
Triangle Sales & Service Co., Auto expense	52.85	
Mrs. A. N. Turner, Supplies	2.50	
W. E. & J. F. Twombly, Printing	23.25	
J. B. Van Buskirk, Supplies50	
Fred Wallace, Supplies	2.89	
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Total Payments	\$ 2,206.35	\$ 2,206.35

FIRE DEPARTMENT

Maintenance Expense

Cr.

Appropriation	\$ 3,500.00
Transferred from Reserve Fund	260.63

Dr.

Adams Co., Supplies	\$ 26.92
Aga Auto Lamp Co., Supplies	10.16
American Railway Express Co.	3.56
J. W. Austin, Supplies	13.23
American Oil & Gas Co., Supplies .....	.80
Baldwin Service Co., Supplies	1.45

H. E. Bussell, Labor	35.50
Joseph Breck & Sons Corp'n, Supplies	10.11
M. F. Charles, Stationery	6.21
Cummings Express Co.	29.08
E. B. Currell & Son, Repairs	215.81
E. A. Crosby, Supplies	7.00
Clapp & Leach, Supplies	5.70
Central Garage, Supplies	4.72
C. Callahan Co., Supplies	128.52
J. J. Cameron, Supplies	3.75
R. D. Clapp, Supplies	2.25
Harry Cross, Supplies	51.80
H. O. Copeland Co., Supplies	7.56
George W. Davis Co., Supplies .....	.25
A. W. Danforth, Supplies .....	.45
L. W. Dickenson & Son, Supplies	2.35
Dodge, Haley Co., Supplies	6.53
Hugh L. Eames, Labor	79.00
T. C. Fife, Repairs	27.82
Fire & Water Engineering Co., Supplies	4.00
Francis Brothers, Supplies	26.11
Gifford Supply Co., Supplies	20.00
James J. Griffin, Labor	2.50
W. F. Gibbons, Board of horses	240.00
Gray-Aldrich Co., Inc., Supplies	6.74
Simi Gregoire, Supplies	26.75
Hodson Brothers, Supplies .....	.55
H. Harris' Sons Co., Horse hire	132.00
R. M. Hollingshead Co., Supplies	7.35
John Street Garage, Supplies	1.25
Knox Motor Associates, Supplies	56.08
Larkin Mfg. Co., Supplies	23.81
Malden & Melrose Gas Light Co.	39.59
Motor Parts Co., Supplies	11.04
C. W. H. Moulton Co., Supplies	2.50
Merrimac Chemical Co., Supplies	7.70
Massachusetts Reformatory, Supplies	54.00
Mine Safety Appliance Co., Supplies	11.07
H. O. Mellen, Labor	14.00
Municipal Light Dept.	14.80
New England Tel. & Tel. Co.	91.46
V. N. Neilson Co., Supplies	3.46
C. Irving Nesmith, Rent of pung	30.00
O. O. Ordway, Supplies .....	.50
J. J. O'Brien, Supplies .....	.63
Reading Custom Laundry	34.24
Reading Garage Service Station, Supplies	10.55

Reading Motor Co., Supplies	29.98	
H. Robertson, Labor	1.50	
Robinson Fire Appliance Co., Supplies	8.23	
Standard Oil Co., Supplies	195.18	
S. R. Stenbridge, Supplies	86.95	
Percy N. Sweetser, Supplies	494.58	
F. F. Smith, Supplies	1.40	
Stoneham Battery Station, Supplies	46.00	
Schaeffer, Budenberg Mfg. Co., Supplies	1.69	
L. C. Smith Bros. Typewriter Co.	20.00	
W. E. & J. F. Twombly, Printing	5.50	
George H. Taylor Co., Supplies	6.26	
Underwriters Equipment Co., Supplies	905.20	
F. Wallace, Supplies	37.10	
Walworth Mfg. Co., Supplies	9.62	
Water Dept.	3.00	
Western Electric Co., Supplies	1.07	
Winship, Boit Co., Supplies	15.00	
Winchester Laundries, Inc.	73.94	
Wetmore, Savage Co., Supplies	10.28	
A. Zanni & Co., Horse hire	250.00	
George Zanni, Labor	5.00	
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Total Payments	\$ 3,760.63	\$ 3,760.63

FIRE DEPARTMENT

Salaries

Cr.

Appropriation	\$ 8,800.00
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Dr.

Orville O. Ordway, Chief	\$ 2,000.00
Hugh L. Eames	1,700.00
Frank L. McKenney	1,700.00
John J. O'Brien	1,700.00
William H. Vanhorn	1,700.00

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\$	8,800.00	\$ 8,800.00

FIRE DEPARTMENT

Call Men Salaries

Cr.

Appropriation	\$ 2,765.00
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Dr.

Pay Roll	\$ 2,751.00
Balance to Revenue	14.00

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\$	2,765.00	\$ 2,765.00

FIRE ALARM
Maintenance—Expense
Cr.

Appropriation		\$	775.00
American Railway Express Co.	\$.45	
American Steel & Wire Co., Supplies		88.87	
W. Baneroff & Co., Supplies .....		.50	
Bangs Fixture Co., Supplies		1.00	
Boston & Maine Railroad, Freight		2.99	
H. E. Bussell, Labor		7.50	
R. D. Clapp, Repairs		3.25	
Clapp & Leach, Repairs		9.20	
Cummings Express Co.		1.00	
L. T. Eames, Labor		39.85	
Francis Brothers, Supplies		9.62	
T. C. Fife, Supplies .....		.80	
Gamewell Fire Alarm Tel. Co.		70.59	
George Hayes, Labor		6.00	
Hodson Brothers, Supplies		1.85	
Karlin & Schlossberg, Supplies		32.52	
Municipal Light Dept.		141.43	
A. J. Wilkinson & Co., Supplies		10.71	
Weston Elec. Inst. Co., Supplies		23.66	
F. Wallace, Supplies		1.00	
Western Electric Co., Supplies		181.29	
Total Payments	\$	634.08	
Balance to Revenue		140.92	
	\$	775.00	\$ 775.00

FIRE ALARM BOXES
Cr.

Appropriation		\$	1,320.00
	Dr.		
Pay Roll	\$	173.00	
American Steel & Wire Co., Supplies		51.97	
American Railway Express Co.		2.99	
R. D. Clapp, Repairs		2.55	
Francis Brothers, Supplies		9.92	
Gamewell Fire Alarm Telegraph Co. Supplies ..		751.70	
Municipal Light Dept., Supplies		80.92	
Western Electric Co., Supplies		22.51	
Total Payments	\$	1,095.56	
Balance to Revenue		224.44	
	\$	1,320.00	\$ 1,320.00

FIRE ALARM
Superintendent's Salary

Cr.			
Appropriation		\$	100.00
Dr.			
Leonard T. Eames	\$	33.34	
Balance to Revenue		66.66	
		<hr/>	<hr/>
	\$	100.00	\$ 100.00

HYDRANT RENTALS

Cr.			
Appropriation		\$	6,060.00
Dr.			
Water Department	\$	6,060.00	
		<hr/>	<hr/>
	\$	6,060.00	\$ 6,060.00

FOREST WARDEN

Cr.			
Appropriation		\$	200.00
Dr.			
Pay Roll	\$	34.00	
Cornelius, Calahan Co., Supplies		10.80	
Comm. of Mass., Supplies		11.25	
H. M. Donegan, Salary, Deputy		15.00	
Francis Brothers, Supplies		6.77	
Mass. Div. of the Blind, Supplies		22.82	
Page Broom Co., Supplies		18.75	
Reading Motor Co., Supplies		1.92	
S. R. Stenbridge, Supplies		4.00	
Underwriters Equipment Co., Supplies		10.80	
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Total Payments	\$	136.11	
Balance to Revenue		63.89	
		<hr/>	<hr/>
	\$	200.00	\$ 200.00

TREE WARDEN

Cr.			
Appropriation		\$	1,500.00
Dr.			
Pay Roll	\$	1,060.52	
E. P. Bancroft, Teaming		16.00	
William C. Barrett, Repairs .....		.85	

R. D. Clapp, Repairs	3.50
Cherry Hill Nurseries, Trees	264.00
H. M. Donegan	50.00
H. I. Dallman & Co., Supplies	35.20
Francis Brothers, Supplies	16.14
Frost Insecticide Co., Supplies	5.25
William R. Livingstone, Labor	6.00
W. E. & J. F. Twombly, Printing	17.54
A. Zanni & Co., Trucking	25.00

Total Payments	\$ 1,500.00
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\$ 1,500.00	\$ 1,500.00
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MOTH DEPARTMENT

Cr.

Appropriation	\$ 6,400.00
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Dr.

Pay Roll	\$ 5,029.07
William C. Barrett, Repairs	2.40
F. W. Barry, Beale & Co., Supplies	4.10
Joseph Breck & Sons Corp., Supplies	2.97
Brackett, Shaw Lumber Co., Supplies	21.11
Mrs. Mabel J. Capen, Supplies	1.50
Samuel Cabot, Inc., Supplies	18.15
C. W. Crafts, Stationery	17.50
Cummings Express Co.	12.35
Cutter, Wood Supply Co., Supplies	8.50
H. M. Donegan, Rent	96.00
Francis Brothers, Supplies	10.58
Frost Insecticide Co., Supplies	59.78
Glidden Company, Supplies	950.40
Hodges Co., Inc., Supplies	56.94
New England Tel. & Tel. Co.	22.13
Reading Garage, Inc.	57.48
P. J. Seaman, Repairs	11.00
O. O. Ordway, Repairs	3.00
W. E. & J. F. Twombly, Printing	10.13
A. Zanni & Co., Trucking	2.80

Total Payments	\$ 6,397.89
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Balance to Revenue	2.11
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\$ 6,400.00	\$ 6,400.00
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INSPECTOR OF BUILDING

Cr.			
Appropriation		\$	300.00
Dr.			
George H. Sidebottom	\$	300.00	
	\$	300.00	\$ 300.00

INSPECTOR OF PLUMBING

Cr.			
Appropriation		\$	700.00
Dr.			
David Taggart	\$	700.00	
	\$	700.00	\$ 700.00

INSPECTOR OF WIRES

Cr.			
Appropriation		\$	100.00
Dr.			
Arthur G. Sias	\$	100.00	
	\$	100.00	\$ 100.00

SEALER OF WEIGHTS AND MEASURES**Salary**

Cr.			
Appropriation		\$	400.00
Dr.			
Carl M. Smith	\$	400.00	
	\$	400.00	\$ 400.00

Expenses

Cr.			
Appropriation		\$	100.00
Dr.			
W. Howard Booth, Auto hire	\$	5.00	
George C. Burns, Auto hire		10.00	
Francis Brothers, Supplies		4.05	
Hobbs & Warren, Stationery		3.36	
Kenney's Service Station, Auto expense		2.75	
S. R. Stembridge, Auto hire		3.50	
Carl M. Smith, Auto hire		33.00	
Total Payments	\$	61.66	

Balance to Revenue	38.34		
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	\$ 100.00	\$	100.00

INSPECTOR OF MILK

Cr.

Appropriation		\$	100.00
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Dr.

Carl M. Smith	\$	100.00	
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	\$ 100.00	\$	100.00

HEALTH DEPARTMENT**Board of Health—Salaries**

Cr.

Appropriation		\$	250.00
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Dr.

Christine F. Atkinson	\$	100.00	
Edw. M. Halligan, M.D.		75.00	
Calvert H. Playdon		75.00	
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	\$ 250.00	\$	250.00

Expense

Cr.

Appropriation		\$	300.00
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Dr.

American Railway Express	\$	7.54	
Simon Castine, Auto hire		8.00	
Hobbs & Warren, Supplies		3.40	
Int. Chemical Co., Supplies		61.16	
Diana M. Maloney, Services		100.00	
Carl Miller, Services .....		.50	
National Coat & Apron Supply Co., Supplies ..		5.06	
New England Tel. & Tel. Co., Supplies		29.33	
L. T. Tarpin, Supplies		5.00	
W. E. & J. F. Twombly, Printing		6.85	
A. Zanni & Co., Labor on dumps		72.00	

Total Payments	\$	298.84	
Balance to Revenue		1.16	

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\$ 300.00	\$	300.00	

Care Contagious Diseases

Cr.		
Appropriation		\$ 1,200.00
Dr.		
City of Cambridge	\$ 64.50	
City of Malden, Contagious Hospital	349.00	
North Reading State Sanitarium	279.42	
Mass. Homeopathic Hospital	42.50	
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Total Payments	\$ 735.42	
Balance to Revenue	464.58	
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	\$ 1,200.00	\$ 1,200.00

Garbage Removal

Cr.		
Appropriation		\$ 1,600.00
Dr.		
Joseph Farpelha	\$ 1,600.00	
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	\$ 1,600.00	\$ 1,600.00

INSPECTOR OF ANIMALS

Cr.		
Appropriation		\$ 200.00
Dr.		
Calvert H. Playdon	\$ 200.00	
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	\$ 200.00	\$ 200.00

**SEWER DEPARTMENT
Construction and Maintenance**

Cr.		
Balance from 1922		\$ 13,333.28
Receipts		12,663.15
Dr.		
Pay Roll	\$ 927.46	
Insurance	103.71	
American Oil & Gasoline Co.	1.40	
Frank A. Bessom	1.50	
Emma S. Chamberlain	1.00	
Clapp & Leach	1.60	
Comm. of Mass. Met. Sewer Assessment	10,064.92	
Creditor's National Clearing House	1.50	
Cummings Express Co.	7.95	

George W. Davis Co.	29.05	
Frederick Frotton	211.20	
Nellie S. Kendall	1.00	
B. L. Makepeace, Inc.	36.85	
New England Fire Appliance Co.	7.70	
O. O. Ordway	46.10	
Reading Rubber Mfg. Co.	2.00	
Reading Tire Shop	34.00	
Registry of Motor Vehicles	2.00	
P. J. Seaman	4.50	
F. F. Smith	86.02	
Standard Oil Co.	134.55	
Sumner & Dunbar	16.00	
Puritan Iron Works	91.25	
Percy N. Sweetser	153.96	
W. E. & J. F. Twombly	23.75	
Waldo Bros. & Bond Co.	94.59	
John J. Williams	2,468.04	
Yawman & Erbe Mfg. Co.	5.95	
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Total Payments	\$ 14,559.55	
Balance to 1924	11,436.88	
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	\$ 25,996.43	\$ 25,996.43

SEWER DEPARTMENT

House Connections

Cr.

Balance from 1922	\$ 921.63
Receipts, Guarantee, Deposits	3,768.58

Dr.

Pay Roll	\$ 1,538.11
Refunds, Sundry parties	352.88
W. Bancroft Co.	2.16
Florence Belleveau ....	.49
Chase's Auto Express .....	.50
Cummings Express Co.	10.05
Eagle Oil & Supply Co.	23.28
Lumsden & Van Stone Co.	151.41
Murphy Brothers	74.03
O. O. Ordway	5.05
F. F. Smith	391.15
Standard Oil Co.	6.60
Percy N. Sweetser	418.46

Waldo Bros. & Bond Co.	25.10	
John Williams	495.24	
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Total Payments	\$ 3,494.51	
Balance to 1924	1,195.70	
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	\$ 4,690.21	\$ 4,690.21

HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT

Maintenance

Cr.

Appropriation	\$ 50,000.00
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Dr.

Pay Roll	\$ 15,008.94
Abbott & McKay	23.49
American Oil & Gas Co.	16.81
American Railway Express Co.	7.04
Autocar Sales & Service Co.	789.54
Barrett Co.	12,864.12
Buffalo-Springfield Roller Co.	65.38
Barber Asphalt Co.	420.00
Frank A. Butters	15.55
Braman, Dow & Co.	6.05
C. L. Berger & Sons	56.90
Berger Mfg. Co.	342.03
Boston & Maine Railroad	61.92
J. J. Cameron	3.50
Cummings Express Co.	40.90
Corey Mfg. Co.	7.50
Castner, Curran & Bullitt, Inc.	415.00
Chandler & Farquhar Co.	7.57
Century Sign Co.	59.00
W. E. Clark & Co.	147.27
Cutter, Wood Supply Co.	135.09
Curry Bros. Oil Co.	97.38
E. B. Currell & Son	9.84
E. A. Carpenter	3.96
E. H. Crowe	1.40
H. I. Dallman Co.	42.29
Davis & Abbott	46.00
George W. Davis Co.	23.30
L. W. Dickinson & Son	22.70
Dodge Mfg. Corp.	10.86
Eastern Tractors Co.	1,892.39
Francis Brothers	50.40
T. C. Fife	3.08

Frederick Froton	200.00		
General Crushed Stone Co.	2,673.32		
Gifford Supply Co.	18.00		
A. D. Gordon	18.00		
Good Roads Machinery Co.	37.60		
Hodson Brothers	31.08		
Hodge Boiler Works	1.81		
C. L. Hoffman	1,086.59		
John Street Garage	1.25		
Kenney's Service Station	54.86		
Emma S. Knowles	256.25		
J. A. Lefave	59.25		
Frank Lanza & Sons	200.00		
Lumsden & Van Stone Co.	10.20		
B. L. Makepeace, Inc.	3.00		
E. C. Metcalf	31.90		
Municipal Light Dept.	268.52		
New England Tel. & Tel. Co.	60.86		
F. L. Noble	47.18		
New England Road Mach. Co.	130.55		
George W. Perkins	20.00		
Puritan Iron Works Co.	55.30		
Dana F. Perkins	83.00		
Reading Tire Shop	872.50		
Reading Motor Co.	565.08		
Registry of Motor Vehicles	12.00		
P. J. Seaman	9.70		
Shawmut Chemical Co.	15.00		
F. F. Smith	24.07		
Alden Speare's Sons Co.	3,301.90		
Standard Oil Co.	841.75		
S. R. Stembridge	754.59		
Percy N. Sweetser	629.42		
Texas Co.	331.97		
W. E. & J. F. Twombly	125.45		
Underhay Oil Co.	82.08		
F. Wallace	1.65		
Waldo Bros. & Bond Co.	249.86		
Yawman & Erbe Mfg. Co.	6.30		
A. Zanni & Co.	3,154.00		
W. H. Willis	12.65		
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Total Payments	\$ 49,035.69		
Balance to Revenue	964.31		
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	\$ 50,000.00	\$ 50,000.00	

Snow and Ice Removal
Cr.

Appropriation \$ 7,500.00

Dr.

Pay Roll	\$ 3,682.12
Ploughing, Sundry parties	2,448.50
Autocar Sales Service Co.	87.04
Boston & Maine Railroad	5.56
Central Garage	1.20
Cummings Express Co.	6.35
George W. Davis Co.	1.25
Eastern Tractors Co.	259.88
Francis Brothers	15.45
Cood Roads Machinery Co.	561.00
Hodson Brothers	23.99
John Street Garage	2.45
Reading Motor Co.	62.98
F. F. Smith	14.80
Standard Oil Co.	287.54
S. R. Stenbridge	14.45

Total Payments \$ 7,474.56

Balance to Revenue 25.44

\$ 7,500.00 \$ 7,500.00

Cleaning Drainage Ditches
Cr.

Appropriation \$ 3,000.00

Dr.

Pay Roll	\$ 268.00
W. Bancroft Co.	227.37
Berger Mfg. Co.	223.35
Frederick Frotton	54.00
General Crushed Stone Co.	83.46
H. W. Hunt Co.	41.67
Murphy Brothers	359.79
F. F. Smith	12.25
S. R. Stenbridge	2.70
P. N. Sweetser	255.60
John Williams & Co.	9.50
A. Zanni & Co.	224.00

Total Payments \$ 2,702.19

Balance to revenue 297.81

Total Payments \$ 3,000.00 \$ 3,000.00

Street Lighting
Cr.

Appropriation		\$ 14,800.00	
	Dr.		
Municipal Light Department		\$ 14,800.00	
		<hr/>	<hr/>
		\$ 14,800.00	\$ 14,800.00

Drinking Fountains
Cr.

Appropriation		\$	100.00
	Dr.		
Water Department		\$	100.00
		<hr/>	<hr/>
		\$	100.00
		\$	100.00

POOR DEPARTMENT

Clerical

	Cr.		
Appropriation		\$	352.00
	Dr.		
Leon G. Bent		\$	352.00
		<hr/>	<hr/>
		\$	352.00
		\$	352.00

Visitor's Salary

	Cr.		
Appropriation		\$	400.00
	Dr.		
Helen A. Brown		\$	400.00
		<hr/>	<hr/>
		\$	400.00
		\$	400.00

Outside Relief

	Cr.		
Appropriation		\$	5,000.00
	Dr.		
Cash Payments		\$	1,990.00
Board, Sundry Parties			670.00
G. H. Atkinson Co., Supplies			235.24
W. Bancroft Co., Fuel			81.05
Mrs. B. M. Bates, Services			13.00
City of Boston			792.33
L. G. Bent, Expenses			15.05
Boston Psychopathic Hospital			460.00
Helen A. Brown, Expenses			24.87
Wm. J. Brown, M. D.			41.00

Comm. of Mass.	550.57	
Doherty Brothers, Burial	32.00	
G. F. Dow, M. D.	15.00	
Mrs. Louise Gibson, Rent	37.50	
E. M. Halligan, M. D.	36.00	
E. W. Hancock, Milk	23.52	
Mrs. L. H. Harris, Rent	40.00	
George Hayes, Rent	25.00	
Hobbs & Warren, Blanks	8.40	
Indian Head Farm, Milk	133.53	
Kingman & Richardson, Rent	90.00	
Mass. Homoeopathic Hospital	57.50	
Mass. General Hospital	20.00	
Mrs. E. H. Miller, Services	30.00	
Simpkins Market, Supplies	35.15	
C. S. Sing, Laundry	3.35	
Percy N. Sweetser, Fuel	121.35	
O. P. Symonds, Fuel	17.00	
F. L. Smalley, M. D.	134.00	
A. W. Temple, Rent	171.00	
F. Wallace, Supplies	47.66	
Mrs. A. Wichland, Milk	38.88	
Nathan Wolpert, Rent	195.00	
		<hr/>
Total Payments	\$ 6,184.95	
Overdraft to 1924		\$ 1,184.95
		<hr/>
	\$ 6,184.95	\$ 6,184.95

Board and Care

Cr.

Appropriation	\$ 2,500.00
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Dr.

C. L. Deming, Board	\$ 2,093.76	
Adams Company	27.15	
F. A. Bessom, Clothing	4.20	
M. F. Charles, Glasses70	
Municipal Light Dept.	53.52	
New England Tel. & Tel. Co.	46.23	
F. L. Smalley, M. D.	23.00	
Water Department	50.65	
W. H. Willis, Supplies	20.40	
		<hr/>
Total Payments	\$ 2,319.61	
Balance to Revenue	180.39	
		<hr/>
	\$ 2,500.00	\$ 2,500.00

MOTHERS' AID, TOWN OF READING**(Chap. 118, Gen. Laws)**

Cr.		
Appropriation		\$ 1,500.00
Dr.		
Cash Payments	\$ 1,709.49	
Wendell Bancroft & Co., Fuel	19.20	
E. M. Halligan, M. D.	4.00	
Indian Head Farm, Milk	67.95	
Reading Dental Clinic	2.60	
F. L. Smalley, M. D.	19.16	
Percy N. Sweetser, Fuel	24.16	
Total Payments	\$ 1,846.56	
Overdraft to 1924		346.56
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	\$ 1,846.56	\$ 1,846.56

MOTHERS' AID, COMM. OF MASS.**(Chap. 118, Gen. Laws)**

Cr.		
Appropriation		\$ 2,500.00
Dr.		
Cash Payments	\$ 1,965.51	
Wendell Bancroft & Co., Fuel	14.35	
W. A. Connolly, D. M. D.	49.50	
E. M. Halligan, M. D.	33.00	
Indian Head Farm, Milk	33.95	
Reading Dental Clinic	1.95	
F. L. Smalley, M. D.	9.59	
Percy N. Sweetser, Fuel	76.74	
E. S. Watts Co. Glasses	4.75	
Total Payments	\$ 2,189.34	
Balance to Revenue	310.66	
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	\$ 2,500.00	\$ 2,500.00

Note: To be reimbursed by Commonwealth.

TEMPORARY AID, COMM. OF MASS.**(Chap. 117, Sec. 18, General Laws)**

Cr.		
Appropriation		\$ 1,800.00
Refund		3.00

Dr.

Cash Payments	\$ 1,201.00	
Helen M. Brown, Expenses	6.49	
Mabel M. Brown, Expenses	2.36	
Wendell Bancroft & Co., Fuel	124.50	
Wm. J. Brown, M. D.	9.00	
George F. Dow, M. D.	25.00	
Mass. General Hospital	46.30	
Mrs. John Murray, Rent	384.00	
Reading Dental Clinic	3.15	
Percy N. Sweetser, Fuel	82.75	
O. P. Symonds & Son, Fuel	22.00	
Z. M. Saunders, Supplies	5.50	
Total Payments	1,912.05	
Overdraft to 1924		109.05
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	\$ 1,912.05	\$ 1,912.05

STATE AID

Chap. 115, Gen. Laws

Cr.

Appropriation	\$ 700.00
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Dr.

Cash Payments, account Civil War	\$ 462.00
Balance to Revenue	238.00
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	\$ 700.00

MILITARY AID

Chap. 115, Gen. Laws

Cr.

Appropriation	\$ 300.00
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Dr.

Balance to Revenue	300.00
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	\$ 300.00

SOLDIERS' RELIEF

Chap. 115, Gen. Laws

Cr.

Appropriation	\$ 4,000.00
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Dr.

Cash Payments:	
Account Civil War	\$ 759.00
Account Spanish War	1,092.00
Account World War	560.00

Wendell Bancroft & Co., account World War Fuel	6.50		
A. E. Griffen, account World War Rent	98.00		
F. F. Smith, account World War Rent	20.00		
Geo. Lang, account World War Rent	180.00		
City of Malden, account World War Cash	85.00		
Total Payments	\$ 2,800.50		
Balance to Revenue	1,199.50		
	\$ 4,000.00	\$ 4,000.00	

SCHOOL DEPARTMENT

Salaries, General Account

	Cr.		
Appropriation			\$107,867.00
	Dr.		
Supt., Teachers & Clerical Pay Roll	\$ 99,144.58		
Mabel M. Brown School Nurse	1,400.00		
C. R. Henderson, M. D., medical inspection	400.00		
Janitors, Pay Roll	6,553.50		
Total Payments	\$107,498.08		
Balance to Revenue	368.92		
	\$107,867.00	\$107,867.00	

SCHOOL DEPARTMENT

General Account—Maintenance

	Cr.		
Appropriation		\$ 33,000.00	
Transferred from Reserve Fund		2,850.18	
American Library Association, Refund		2.64	
	Dr.		
George H. Adams	\$ 645.00		
Adams Co.	1.69		
Allen Brothers	7.16		
Allen Shade Holder Co.	280.45		
Allen & Bacon	134.04		
F. M. Ambrose Co.	30.00		
American Book Co.	336.46		
American Library Association	5.28		
American Mult. Sales Co.	98.00		
American Railway Express Co.	20.82		
American School Board Journal	15.00		
American Seating Co.	503.05		

American Weather Strip Co.	16.50
American Type Founders Co.	7.37
Andrews Paper Co.	7.50
Arts Publishing Co.	4.55
G. H. Atkinson Co.	449.50
O. W. Austin	3.00
Badger Fire Extinguishers Co.	7.50
Richard G. Badger	1.81
E. E. Babb & Co.	885.19
W. Bancroft & Co.	126.13
F. J. Barnard & Co.	47.40
Peter Becker	21.50
Jas. G. Beruen, Treas.	1.88
Berry & Withington	16.40
Jas. W. Brine Co.	7.80
Boston League Women Voters	31.90
Boston & Maine Railroad	32.71
Milton Bradley Co.	281.17
Brooks Gill & Co.	39.00
Mabel M. Brown	19.50
Bruce Publishing Co.	1.64
Bureau of Pub. Tea, College	9.83
Robert Burgess	5.00
Central Scientific Co.	39.31
Chandler School for Women	3.32
M. F. Charles	14.00
W. H. Claflin & Co. Inc.	17.50
R. D. Clapp	56.18
Clapp & Leach	371.53
Ben. W. Craig Scenic Co.	40.00
J. W. Creamer	13.50
Columbia Graphophone Co.	51.39
F. M. Crosby	25.25
Cudahy Packing Co.	69.41
Chas. M. Cullinane	73.00
Culture Promotion Pub. Co.	45.94
Cummings Express Co.	195.99
H. I. Dallman Co.	375.62
McPherson Daniel	20.00
Denoyer, Geppert Co.	117.49
Dennison Mfg. Co.	1.70
Matthew Devaney	134.00
Oliver Ditson Co.	52.25
Dobson-Evans Co. ....	.18
Dodd, Meade & Co.	2.33
Doubleday, Page Co.	8.00
C. B. Dolge Co.	14.40

Andrew Dutton Co.	13.76
Ellis Publishing Co.	31.15
Eastern Mass. St. Ry. Co.	850.00
Edgerley & Bessom	9.00
T. C. Fife	1,249.12
Forse Mfg. Co.	32.88
Francis Brothers	175.81
M. Franklin	23.76
Ernest R. Gaw	13.65
Ginn & Co.	594.06
Clement Gleason	23.95
C. H. Goldthwait & Co.	5.28
Gregg Publishing Co.	2.77
J. L. Hammett Co.	2,176.46
G. H. Hammond	11.45
Harcourt-Brace Co.	99.02
Harvard Coop. Soc'y	2.70
Harris & Gilpatric	271.47
Norman C. Hayner Co.	109.02
D. C. Heath & Co.	290.01
Heywood-Wakefield Co.	2,203.90
Hinds, Hayden & Eldridge Inc.	1.80
Hodge Boiler Works	405.73
Hodson Brothers	693.15
John Hood Co.	34.92
Holden Pat. Book Cover Co.	5.15
Houghton, Mifflin & Co.	149.21
B. W. Huebsch ....	.79
Howe & French	94.43
Iroquois Publishing Co.	21.89
Walter Ballou Jacob, Treas.	20.00
Frank J. Jameson	138.30
Jordan Marsh Co.	93.15
Jones, McDuffee Stratton Corp'n	109.35
William Kelch	1.50
Kenney Bros. & Wolkins	53.26
W. H. Killam, Jr.	10.80
W. E. King	27.50
Adeline Lahaise	2.35
Charles E. Lauriat Co.	58.90
La Presna	2.00
B. J. Leathers	3.00
J. Alex LeFave	43.13
Library Bureau	26.35
David J. Linder	1.00
J. B. Lippincott [®] Co.	12.17
Little, Brown Co.	41.50

Longmans Green & Co.	9.95
Lyons & Carnahan	93.85
Macmillan Co.	67.29
Macey-Morris Co.	71.78
B. F. Macy	3.60
Jennie Mackie	2.50
E. F. Mahady Co.	18.51
Malden & Melrose Gas Lt. Co.	179.33
A. N. Marquis & Co.	6.75
Marine Bi'ol Labratory	20.50
Mrs. Nellie Mason	1.25
Mass. Child Labor Comm.	4.00
Mass. Soc'y Mental Hygiene	15.17
Mass. Reformatory for Women	32.22
Mass. State Prison	38.23
Masury, Young Co.	69.75
J. M. Maxwell, Jr. & Son	41.68
H. R. McIntire	1.50
H. B. McArdle	229.24
McKnight & McKnight	91.80
Mental Hygiene, Nat'l Comm.	2.00
G. & C. Merriam Co.	75.00
H. M. Meserve & Co.	90.45
Charles E. Merrill & Co.	18.74
Metropolitan Paint Co.	176.32
Modern Hospital Pub. Co.	5.00
Modern Bindery	61.60
Municipal Light Dept.	946.83
J. A. Murphy	14.75
Nat'l Comm. for Mental Hygiene	2.00
New Eng. Publishing Co.	18.00
New England Tel. & Tel. Co.	429.69
Noble & Noble	6.42
North Wilmington Nurseries	12.00
Office Appliance Co.	12.19
Old Corner Book Store	37.20
J. C. Oxley	33.93
Horace Partridge Co.	12.05
Peerless Supply Co.	26.93
Dana F. Perkins	17.28
Pettingell Andrews Co.	91.95
Wm. Pierpont	6.00
G. L. Putnams Sons	1.77
Pub. Ed. & Ch. L. Pub. Assoc.	7.00
Public School Pub. Co.	41.10
Winthrop E. Pratt	148.00
W. F. Quarrie	55.00

Rand. McNally Co.	36.92
Reading Rubber Mfg. Co.	8.00
Reading Citizens Ice Co.	7.55
Reading Custom Laundry	20.42
Regents Pub. Co.	1.20
Remington Typewriter Co.	50.60
Rich's Market	9.38
Rockport Fish Market	7.67
Ronald Press Co.	48.25
H. M. Rowe Co.	1.03
Royal Typewriter Co.	506.55
Ryan & Buker, Inc.	49.37
A. L. Safford	129.64
Benj. H. Sanborn Co.	63.17
H. M. Sanders Co.	7.31
H. A. Shepard & Co.	39.26
E. C. Schimer Music Co.	20.20
School Arts Magazine	3.00
The Scientific Press	5.00
Chas. Scribner's Sons	52.18
Scott, Foresman & Co.	234.50
P. J. Seaman	1.25
Sewer Dept.	212.90
Silver, Burditt & Co.	128.13
Helen H. Smalley	10.97
F. F. Smith	4.40
A. G. Spaulding & Bros.	10.00
Standard Book Co.	35.43
Standard Chem. Supply Co.	19.75
S. R. Stembidge	153.00
Stewart & Robertson	3,470.37
Stone & Forsythe Co.	121.00
Supt. of Documents, Wash., D. C.	1.00
The Survey	21.12
Percy N. Sweetser	8,859.30
O. P. Symonds & Sons	11.25
Jas. Taggart	4.00
Leon T. Tarpin	17.14
Teachers' College, Col. Univ.	15.18
A. T. Thompson & Co.	16.00
Jas. T. Towhill Co.	5.75
W. E. & J. F. Twombly	255.94
Underwood Typewriter Co.	2.69
Ungraded Teachers' Association	1.50
United States Post Office	62.09
University Supply Book Co.	1.67
University of Chicago	12.25

Vocational Educational Magazine	3.00	
F. Wallace	17.85	
Ward's Stationers	1.40	
Water Dept.	537.60	
Webster Publishing Co.	42.72	
Wensell & Co.	106.00	
John N. Weston	25.25	
West Disinfecting Co.	19.75	
F. C. Whittemore	24.35	
W. H. Willis	23.85	
H. W. Wilson Co.	30.95	
Williams Bookstore Co.	6.39	
John C. Winston Co.	64.30	
A. J. Wilkinson & Co.	13.11	
A. W. Wiley	51.75	
Woburn-Reading Bus Line	60.00	
World Book Co.	218.06	
George F. Wood	187.50	
Wright & Potter Ptg. Co.	6.15	
Wright & Ditson	7.50	
Mary U. Yaffee	26.40	
Yale University Press	6.00	
A. Zanni & Co.	202.96	
Total Payments	\$ 35,852.82	\$ 35,852.82

Salaries, Agricultural Account**Cr.**

Appropriation		\$ 4,800.00
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Dr.

Supt. & Teachers' Pay Roll	\$ 4,426.50	
Balance to Revenue	373.50	
	\$ 4,800.00	\$ 4,800.00

Agricultural Account—Maintenance**Cr.**

Appropriation		\$ 1,000.00
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Dr.

American Railway Ex. Co.	\$ 14.60	
H. C. Ayseough	40.00	
Burnham & Davis Lumber Co.	105.00	
Jos. Breck & Sons	31.00	
Camb. Botanical Supply Co.	4.30	
Cummings Express Co. ....	.85	
Denoyer-Geppert Co.	26.22	
Doubleday Page Co.	3.00	
Ellis Publishing Co. ....	.75	

PUBLIC LIBRARY—Salaries

Cr.

Appropriation \$ 2,050.00

Dr.

Bertha L. Brown	\$ 763.00
Grace J. Abbott	477.34
Harriette M. Pratt	70.75
Helen J. Allard	158.10
Chas. H. Stinchfield	526.79

Total Payments \$ 1,995.98

Balance to Revenue 54.02

\$ 2,050.00	\$ 2,050.00
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Maintenance

Cr.

Appropriation \$ 3,050.00

Dr.

G. H. Atkinson Co., Supplies	\$ 2.25
F. J. Barnard & Co., Binding	48.10
N. J. Bartlett & Co., Books	17.50
R. R. Bowker & Co., Books	3.60
Bertha L. Brown, Expense	42.98
Edward A. Brown	82.10
R. D. Clapp, Repairs .....	.95
Clapp & Leach, Repairs	2.55
E. A. Crosby, Fuel	14.00
E. B. Currell & Sons, Repairs	717.50
T. C. Fife, Repairs	4.75
Francis Brothers, Repairs	2.15
Ginn & Company, Books	1.11
R. H. Hinekley Co., Books	45.00
Hodson Bros., Repairs	1.40
H. R. Hunting & Co., Books	473.37
William Kelch, Labor	4.15
Library Bureau, Supplies	77.94
J. H. McLellan	14.40
A. N. Marquis Co.	6.75
H. B. McArdle	7.20
Municipal Light Dept., Fuel and Light	360.95
Old Corner Book Store, Books	1,011.18
Sewer Department	6.90
C. H. Stinchfield, Labor	6.00
Percy N. Sweetser, Teaming	3.35
W. E. & J. F. Twombly, Printing	64.50

H. R. Wheeler, Treas. Books	5.00		
Water Department	7.75		
H. W. Wilson Co., Books	3.00		
Frank J. Wilder, Books	8.00		
Total Payments	\$ 3,046.38		
Balance to Revenue	3.62		
	\$ 3,050.00	\$ 3,050.00	

PARK DEPARTMENT

Care, Common, Parks and Supervised Play

Cr.

Appropriation	\$ 2,370.00
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Dr.

Pay Roll	\$ 1,102.70		
Frank A. Butters	13.75		
Charles A. Berry	113.20		
Chandler & Farquhar Co.	21.00		
R. D. Clapp	3.75		
T. C. Fife	5.63		
Hodson Brothers	75.00		
H. W. Hunt Co.	25.81		
E. A. Meekins	55.75		
Horace Partridge Co.	24.94		
E. E. Randall	50.00		
F. F. Smith	11.03		
Delia E. Sweetser	85.50		
Percy N. Sweetser	325.40		
A. Zanni & Co.	44.65		
Total Payments	\$ 1,958.11		
Balance to Revenue	411.89		
	\$ 2,370.00	\$ 2,370.00	

LAUREL HILL CEMETERY

Cr.

Appropriation	\$ 8,553.82
Transferred from Cemetery Reserve Fund	2,129.29
Transferred from Care Soldiers' Graves Fund ..	361.34
Interest, Cemetery Bequest	1,152.19
Royal Indemnity Co.	20.56

Dr.

Pay Roll	\$ 6,810.88
Adams, Cushing & Foster	8.68

American Railway Express Co.	3.04
Willard P. Adden	9.00
Atlantic Marine Exchange	16.00
O. W. Austin	9.00
Barrett Co.	350.00
Joseph Breck & Sons Corp'n	55.08
H. W. Batchelder	2.00
Berger Mfg. Co.	247.83
Braman, Dow & Co.	139.57
M. F. Charles .....	.14
Cummings Express Co.	16.55
Cutter, Wood Supply Co.	56.24
S. H. Davis & Co.	59.75
F. E. & E. L. Emery	25.50
H. A. Feindel	94.75
Francis Brothers	31.66
T. C. Fife	11.28
Frigid Fluid Co.	7.50
A. E. Goodwin	3.27
General Crushed Stone Co.	241.94
Hodson Brothers	11.89
Halliday Sales Co.	3.50
Hodges Company, Inc.	41.86
Francis B. Hunt	18.00
John Street Garage	58.79
Lowe & Powers	40.00
Malis-Powers Supply Co.	19.00
Municipal Light Board	3.60
Melvin McCourby	2.00
New England Cemetery Association	5.00
New England Tel. & Tel. Co.	68.08
O. O. Ordway	4.35
Joseph L. Peters	14.00
Reading Garage & Service Station	87.13
Reading Greenhouses and Nurseries	18.53
Reading Motor Co.	7.56
Reading Tire Shop	17.50
Reliance Ribbon & Carbon Co.	1.00
P. J. Seaman	14.73
Frank F. Simpson	33.00
F. F. Smith	3.50
S. R. Stembridge	25.75
Percy N. Sweetser	1,280.50
W. E. & J. F. Twombly	31.00
Waldo Brothers & Bond Co.	6.37
Water Department	8.90
Yawman & Erbe Mfg. Co.	16.50

A. Zanni & Co.	900.00	
Estate Jason Zwicker	120.00	
Total Payments	\$ 11,061.70	
Balance to Revenue	1,155.49	
	\$ 12,217.19	\$ 12,217.19

WATER DEPARTMENT

Cr.

Balance Jan. 1, 1923	\$ 6,633.81
Receipts, Meter Rates, etc., 1923	41,231.75

Dr.

Pond Payments	\$ 12,000.00
Interest Payments	3,417.50
Cash Payments	10.00
Pay Roll	11,796.50
Insurance	278.57
Adams Co.	5.20
American Oil & Gas Co.	1.40
American Railway Express Co.	21.21
Amstaco	2.45
G. H. Atkinson Co.	6.75
O. W. Austin	13.55
W. Bancroft & Co.	39.59
Bangs Fixture Co.	65.00
F. W. Barry, Beale & Co.	10.97
Banker & Tradesman Publishing Co.	7.00
G. E. Belcher Mach. Co. ....	.49
Florence Bellevue	1.28
Bingham & Taylor	87.61
Blackbird Pen Co.	1.75
Boston & Maine Railroad	603.99
Boston Nickel Plate Co.	1.63
Braman, Dow & Co.	437.57
J. W. Brown	5.00
Buffalo Meter Co.	2.44
W. A. Burns	4.75
Burroughs Adding Machine Co.	182.95
Frank Butters	3.38
George A. Caldwell	18.36
Castner, Curran & Bullitt, Inc.	2,973.19
Chadwick-Boston Lead Co.	64.85
Chandler & Farquhar Co.	39.62
M. F. Charles	17.55
Clapp & Leach .....	.50

Creditors' National Clearing House	32.11
Cummings Express Co.	75.20
E. B. Currell & Son	202.66
Cutter, Wood Supply Co.	137.64
George W. Davis Co.	5.80
Dexter Brothers Co.	77.12
Dennison Mfg. Co.	6.31
L. W. Dickenson & Son	8.25
Eagle Oil & Supply Co.	352.19
Easy Mfg. Co.	81.22
Elliott Co.	11.90
T. C. Fife	244.82
Fire & Water Eng. Co., Inc.	4.00
Fonda Lime Kilns	260.00
Francis Brothers	4.85
Franklin Tire Chain Co.	44.37
Frederick Frotton	27.00
Gamon Meter Co.	426.88
Graff, Underwood Co.	2.06
James J. Griffin	2.20
Thomas Groom & Co.	2.87
Hart Packing Co.	3.68
Hersey Mfg. Co.	71.22
Hodson Brothers	7.20
H. W. Hunt Co.	294.09
Jenkins Brothers	6.40
Johns-Manville, Inc.	28.66
Kenney's Service Station	3.00
Lumsden & Van Stone Co.	1,607.10
Library Bureau	9.98
H. B. McArdle	18.60
B. L. Makepeace, Inc.	1.74
J. M. Maxwell, Jr., & Son	36.81
Merrimac Chemical Co.	602.91
D. O. Miller Co.	8.60
H. Mueller Mfg. Co.	92.64
Municipal Light Dept.	2,447.54
James A. Murphy	2.50
Murphy Brothers	1,110.93
National Meter Co.	568.65
Samuel Nareus	5.45
New England Towel Supply Co.	9.60
New England Tel. & Tel. Co.	220.71
Neptune Meter Co.	17.41
New England Coal & Coke Co.	497.19
F. L. Noble	4.00
O. O. Ordway	27.10

Pittsburg Meter Co.	27.24
John W. Perry	4.00
Polygon Products Co. ....	.64
Prentiss & Parker	7.50
Reading Tire Shop	74.25
Reading Garage & Service Station	1.57
Reading Motor Co.	186.17
Red Hed Mfg. Co.	231.29
Registry of Motor Vehicles	6.00
Reliance Ribbon & Carbon Co.	4.50
Rensselaer Valve Co.	1,139.93
Richards & Co.	52.02
Sanborn Map Co.	29.00
P. J. Seaman .....	.75
Solidhed Tack Co.	2.25
F. F. Smith	71.64
Benj. W. Smith	33.10
S. M. Spencer Mfg. Co.	8.16
Standard Oil Co.	186.40
S. R. Stenbridge	28.00
Stillman-Carmichael Co.	4.95
Sumner & Dunbar	102.60
P. Sutherland Co.	40.10
P. N. Sweetser	220.73
Thompson Meter Co.	117.84
Thorp & Martin Co.	8.28
W. E. & J. F. Twombly	156.17
Underwood Typewriter Co.	12.54
Union Water Meter Co.	73.75
United States Post Office	223.05
Town of Wakefield	5.64
Waldo Bros. & Bond Co.	65.41
Ware Coupling & Nipple Co.	61.74
Water Works Equipment Co.	55.00
James Webb	6.00
Weston & Sampson	90.80
White's Express	1.00
Woburn Machine Co.	6.79
Worthington Pump & Mach. Co.	45.50
Yawman & Erbe Mfg. Co.	11.63
A. Zanni & Co.	40.00

Total Payments	\$ 45,379.89
Balance to 1924	2,485.67

\$ 47,865.56 \$ 47,865.56

MUNICIPAL LIGHT DEPARTMENT

Cr.

Balance Jan. 1, 1923	\$ 157.45
Bonds issued 1923	10,000.00
Loan, H. H. Kinsley, Treas.	8,000.00
Receipts, Light, Power, etc.	197,518.62
Premiums on Bonds	65.00

Dr.

H. H. Kinsley, Treas., payment on loan	\$ 7,300.00
Note & Bond payments	15,800.00
Interest on notes and bonds	6,588.75
Pay Roll	52,829.60
Sundry cash payments, per vouchers	9,999.99
Mun. Lighting Tax, Transfer	39.17
Insurance	400.02
William G. Long, Salary	75.00
Harry P. Baker, Salary	75.00
Herbert G. Evans, Salary	75.00
H. L. Abbott	8.25
Addressograph Co.	11.21
American Bank Note Co.	20.46
American Railway Express Co.	210.29
American Elec. Ser. & Maint. Co.	179.06
John L. Anderson	18.75
Karl Andrew Co.	380.00
Ashcroft Mfg. Co.	7.34
Charles M. Bailey	323.04
Bailey Press	117.75
W. Bancroft Co.	57.79
Bangs Fixture Co.	4.50
Mrs. J. S. Bangs	30.87
Barclay & Vaughan	5.39
H. C. Barrows	55.00
Van I. Bennett	51.74
Beaudette & Graham Co.	121.27
C. S. Bigsby Co.	8.00
C. S. Binner Corp.	8.89
Bird Hill Garage	1.30
Blackbird Pen Co.	3.50
Blake Elec. Mfg. Co.	45.00
Boston & Maine Railroad Co.	9,847.82
Boston Index Card Co. ....	.90
Braman, Dow & Co.	99.18
Joseph Breck & Son	9.60
Bristol Company	8.29
Browne Bros.	560.00

E. J. Brooks & Co.	9.27
A. L. Bryant	11.76
George H. Buckminister Co.	5,611.79
Benj. A. Buzzell & Co.	2,127.35
Castner, Curran & Bullitt, Inc.	15,833.08
Central Garage	255.88
Chandler & Farquhar Co.	67.21
Century Elec. Co.	1.49
Cheney Paper Co.	1.95
M. F. Charles	15.95
A. W. Chesterton	10.19
Clapp & Leach	3,905.71
Columbia Lamp Division	1,991.18
Crandall Packing Co.	8.11
Cummings Express Co.	320.90
E. B. Currell & Son	5.11
Cutter, Wood Supply Co.	21.57
H. I. Dallman Co.	97.53
Dalton Light Fixture Co.	4.40
F. J. Dansingburg	3.84
George W. Davis Co.	40.28
Louis Davis	10.00
S. H. Davis Co.	2.72
Paul W. Dayton	1,143.58
L. W. Dickinson & Son ..	122.25
Dodge, Haley Co.	18.51
M. W. Dunton Co.	60.00
Eagle Oil & Supply Co.	173.13
E. W. Eames	400.00
George E. Eaton	47.70
E. Mass. Street Railway Co.	285.28
Economy Lubricating Co.	1.75
Elec. Mach. & Inst. Co.	287.62
Electric Blower Co.	35.72
Eureka Vac. Cl. Co.	1,928.85
Farley & McNeil	130.87
E. M. Faye Elec. Co.	152.64
Federal Elec. Co.	7.48
T. C. Fife	64.21
First Aid Spec. Co., Inc.	12.19
Frank E. Fitts Mfg. & Supply Co.	17.67
R. J. Fisher	10.37
Flax Mfg. Co.	5.00
E. K. Flood	14.00
Foster-McDonald Co., Assignees	1,375.14
Francis Brothers	15.08
Frankhill, Tire Chain Co.	13.75

F. W. Freeman, Collector	435.19
Frederick Frotton	137.10
Garlock Packing Co.	49.73
Gardner Governor Co.	243.18
General Elec. Co.	8,083.50
A. C. Gilbert	5.34
W. E. Gilson	183.09
Globe Stove & Range Co.	228.73
J. D. Gowing, Collector	157.28
Frank E. Gray	1,714.71
Morris Green	18.46
Grow Tire Co.	437.28
F. S. Hardy Co.	1,042.52
E. W. Ham Elec. Co.	6,126.24
Carroll R. Heath	295.00
Fred S. High	2.10
Earl G. Hobart	118.20
Hobb & Warren	38.21
Hodge Boiler Works	20.25
Oliver Holt	1,010.00
Hoover Co.	149.55
Hoover Suction Sweeper Co.	8.60
Howe & French, Inc.	6.75
Imperial Coal Co.	933.47
India Alkali Works	42.66
C. L. Jeanes Co.	84.77
Jenkins Bros.	67.96
Louise B. Jenkins	20.00
John Street Garage	94.43
David E. Justice	4.35
James E. Kelly	13.75
Kelvinator Sales Co.	1,574.55
A. M. Kendall	67.00
Kenney Service Station	42.90
William S. Kinsley	15.00
Landers, Frary & Clark	2.77
Charles I. Lassell	62.50
Lewis Elec. Supply Co.	56.85
Library Bureau	352.11
Lunkenheimer Co.	8.10
Line Material Co.	2.24
R. W. Linseott	1,686.36
Lightolier Co.	94.11
Lumsden & Van Stone Co.	75.16
Town of Lynnfield	364.50
H. B. McArdle	62.90
McDonald & Hobart	26.45

McIver, Johnson Co.	17.20
McKenney & Waterbury	4.14
Maderia, Hill Co.	421.03
MacLeod Mfg. Co.	21.37
Malden Morris Plan Co.	253.04
Magee Furnace Co.	259.06
Mathias-Hart Co.	71.21
James H. Mathews & Co.	21.61
J. M. Maxwell, Jr., & Son	3,326.82
Model Typewriter Co.	61.25
Meloney Elec. Co.	1,547.50
W. J. Mowbray	15.00
Municipal Lighting Assoc.	10.00
Nat'l Carbon Co., Inc.	31.64
National Cash Reg. Co.	19.86
National Tire & Rubber Co.	104.64
Nashua Mach. Co.	4.08
New England Coal & Coke Co.	2,843.44
N. E. Iron Works Co.	12.40
New England Products Co.	60.98
New England Stove Fixture Co.	17.50
New England Tel. & Tel. Co.	1,166.06
N. E. Fire Appl. Co.	15.29
Town of North Reading	150.00
North Main Street Garage	28.00
North Reading Wagon Co.	130.30
Northeastern Co.	38.40
Northern Coal Co.	2,296.41
J. C. Oxley	7.04
W. R. Patten	364.00
Perkins-Carpenter Elec. Supply Co.	1,720.33
Annie L. Perry	50.00
Pettingell-Andrews Co.	1,350.54
C. S. Pettingell	9.00
R. V. Pettingell El. Supply Co.	151.14
Portalite Co.	33.45
Power	5.00
A. C. Pratt	21.05
Prentiss & Parker	5,631.78
Quaker City Range Co.	17.19
Quaker City Rubber Co.	17.68
Reading Garage & Service Station, Inc.	502.65
Reading Motor Co.	679.33
Reading Rubber Mfg. Co.	1,502.12
Reading Tire Shop	28.70
Refactum Lamp Co.	45.50
Registry of Motor Vehicles	22.00

Reo-Simpson Co.	17.93
Arthur E. Roberts	80.41
Robbins-Phalon Co.	3,830.59
William C. Robinson & Son Co.	29.15
Russell Coal Co.	4,540.65
P. J. Seaman	46.92
Second National Bank	94.00
Security Lodge I. O. O. F.	50.00
Stephen F. Shelvey	21.50
H. T. Schopperly	40.00
Simplex Elec. Heating Co.	414.53
Simplex W. & C. Co.	425.00
F. F. Smith	2.70
Soc'y for Elec. Development	47.30
Spaulding, Moss Co.	18.36
Spencer Regulator Co.	2.33
Charles E. Stanwood	611.20
Standard Chemical & Supply Co.	17.82
Standard El. Stove Co.	6.47
Standard Oil Co.	939.91
Star Brass Mfg. Co.	8.98
Star Service Station, Inc.	17.85
S. R. Stenbridge	285.29
Sterling Art Lamp Co.	44.50
Don H. Stevens	17.80
P. F. Sturtevant	125.00
Daniel S. Sullivan	97.53
P. Sutherland & Co.	46.00
Percy N. Sweetser	2,265.01
John Tredinnick	2,040.29
J. S. Temple Co., Inc.	240.00
Triangle Sales & Service Co.	29.90
W. E. & J. F. Twombly	749.91
United States Post Office	815.16
Vacuum Oil Co.	41.50
Vye, Smith & Co.	37.40
Wagner Elec. Co.	472.19
George H. Wahn	461.66
Wales Adding Machine Co.	368.76
Waldo Bros. & Bond Co.	53.18
F. Wallace	2.45
Walworth Mfg. Co.	3.97
Water Department	111.65
Waterproof Paint & Varnish Co.	187.50
Win-Deco. Display Service	63.00
Western Elec. Co.	960.07
Wetmore-Savage Co.	5,131.77

Westinghouse Elec. & Mfg. Co.	3,445.31	
Wheeler C. & E. Co.	9.68	
Ralph B. Willis	278.25	
W. H. Willis	1.62	
Woburn Iron Foundry	30.00	
W. A. Wood & Co.	37.94	
Woburn Machine Co.	543.96	
Worthington Pump & Meh. Co.	43.31	
Yawman & Erbe Mfg. Co.	4.00	
A. Zanni & Co.	12.00	
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Total Payments	\$214,741.57	
Balance to 1924	999.50	
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	\$215,741.07	\$215,741.07

MEMORIAL DAY OBSERVANCE

Cr.		
Appropriation		\$ 300.00
Dr.		
George D. Chapman	\$ 85.00	
Lydia Bixby Tent No. 60, D. of V.	13.33	
H. W. Batchelder	1.50	
Veterans Post 194, G. A. R.	16.95	
John N. Weston	144.00	
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Total Payments	\$ 260.78	
Balance to Revenue	39.22	
		<hr/>
	\$ 300.00	\$ 300.00

DRAINAGE SYSTEM SURVEY

Cr.		
Balance from 1922		\$ 2,500.00
Dr.		
F. A. Barbour	\$ 1,500.00	
Balance to 1924	1,000.00	
		<hr/>
	\$ 2,500.00	\$ 2,500.00

PAINTING MUNICIPAL BUILDING

Cr.		
Balance from 1922		\$ 300.00

Dr.

Harvey Quigley	\$	75.00		
Balance to Revenue		225.00		
			<hr/>	<hr/>
	\$	300.00	\$	300.00

CARE OF SOLDIERS' GRAVES**Chap. 115, Sec. 22, Gen. Laws**

Cr.

Appropriation			\$	875.00
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Dr.

Pay Roll Transferred to Cemetery Account	\$	361.34		
Balance to Revenue		513.66		
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	\$	875.00	\$	875.00

SOUTH STREET REPAIRS

Cr.

Balance from 1922			\$	538.08
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Dr.

Balance to 1924		538.08		
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	\$	538.08	\$	538.08

FOREST STREET

Cr.

Balance from 1922			\$	307.54
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Dr.

Balance to 1924		307.54		
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	\$	307.54	\$	307.54

NORTH MAIN STREET SIDEWALK

Cr.

Balance from 1922			\$	175.06
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Dr.

Balance to 1924	\$	175.06		
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	\$	175.06	\$	175.06

PUBLIC LIBRARY BUILDING

Cr.

Balance from 1922			\$	854.92
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Dr.

J. W. Morton, Atty, For Settlement of Claims..	854.92		
	<u>\$ 854.92</u>	<u>\$</u>	<u>854.92</u>

SEWER INVESTMENT ACCOUNT

Cr.

Balance from 1922		\$	4.94
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Dr.

Balance to 1924	4.94		
	<u>\$ 4.94</u>	<u>\$</u>	<u>4.94</u>

SMITH-HUGHES FUND

Cr.

Received 1923		\$	165.10
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Dr.

Balance to 1924	\$ 165.10		
	<u>\$ 165.10</u>	<u>\$</u>	<u>165.10</u>

FLAG POLE

Cr.

Appropriation		\$	500.00
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Dr.

New England Flag Pole Co.	431.20		
Balance to Revenue	68.80		
	<u>\$ 500.00</u>	<u>\$</u>	<u>500.00</u>

TAX COLLECTOR'S SPECIAL

Cr.

Appropriation		\$	150.00
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Dr.

Balance to Revenue	\$ 150.00		
	<u>\$ 150.00</u>	<u>\$</u>	<u>150.00</u>

CHILD WELFARE WORK

Cr.

Appropriation		\$	290.00
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Dr.

Bertha P. Benjamin	\$ 80.00		
M. V. Dykens	45.00		
C. R. Henderson, M. D.	\$ 165.00		
	<u>\$ 290.00</u>	<u>\$</u>	<u>290.00</u>

**MIDDLESEX COUNTY
BUREAU OF AGRICULTURE**

Cr.			
Appropriation		\$	150.00
Dr.			
Middlesex County Extension Service	\$	150.00	
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	\$	150.00	\$ 150.00

TAXES ON PROPERTY TAKEN

Dr.			
Balance from 1922	\$	705.83	
Cr.			
Transferred from E. D. Account			\$ 705.83
		<hr/>	<hr/>
	\$	705.83	\$ 705.83

**SEWER ASSESSMENTS
ON PROPERTY TAKEN**

Dr.			
Balance from 1922	\$	189.00	
Cr.			
Transferred from E. D. Account			\$ 189.00
		<hr/>	<hr/>
	\$	189.00	\$ 189.00

INTEREST

Cr.			
Appropriation			\$ 19,142.50
Dr.			
Interest on Temporary Loans	\$	7,815.16	
Interest on Municipal Building Loans		1,587.50	
Interest on Sewer Loans		7,485.00	
Interest on School Building Loans		780.00	
Interest on Richardson Estate Loan		100.00	
Interest on Brown Estate Loan		190.00	
Interest on Playground Purchase		243.75	
Interest on Library Building Balance		68.38	
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Total Payments	\$	18,269.79	
Balance to Revenue		872.71	
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	\$	19,142.50	\$ 19,142.50

TEMPORARY LOANS
Anticipation of Revenue

Cr.

Outstanding Jan. 1, 1923	\$125,000.00
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Notes Issued in 1923

Month	By whom purchased	Rate of disc	Amt.
Feb.—	Chas. L. Edwardes & Co.	4.08	\$25,000.00
Mar.—	Chas. L. Edwardes & Co.	4.32	50,000.00
May—	Chas. L. Edwardes & Co.	4.33	50,000.00
June—	Chas. L. Edwardes & Co. ...	4.30	50,000.00
Sept.—	Chas. L. Edwardes & Co. ...	4.40	25,000.00
Nov.—	Chas. L. Edwardes & Co.	4.24	50,000.00
Dec.—	Chas. L. Edwardes & Co.	4.24	50,000.00
Average rate of discount		4.30	\$300,000.00

Notes Paid in 1923

June	\$ 50,000.00
November	200,000.00
December	75,000.00

	\$325,000.00
Outstanding Dec. 31, 1923	\$100,000.00

ACCOUNTING MUNICIPAL LOANS

SEWER DEPARTMENT LOANS

Outstanding Jan. 1, 1923	\$169,000.00	
Paid in 1923		\$ 4,000.00
Outstanding Dec. 31, 1923		165,000.00
	\$169,000.00	\$169,000.00

WATER DEPARTMENT LOANS

Outstanding Jan. 1, 1923	\$ 89,000.00	
Paid in 1923		\$ 12,000.00
Outstanding Dec. 31, 1923		\$ 77,000.00
	\$ 89,000.00	\$ 89,000.00

MUNICIPAL LIGHT DEPARTMENT LOANS

Outstanding Jan. 1, 1923	\$146,900.00	
Notes issued Dec., 1923	10,000.00	
Paid in 1923		\$ 15,800.00
Outstanding Dec. 31, 1923		141,100.00
	\$156,900.00	\$156,900.00

MUNICIPAL BUILDING LOANS

Outstanding Jan. 1, 1923	\$ 30,000.00	
Paid in 1923		\$ 2,000.00
Outstanding Dec. 31, 1923		28,000.00
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	\$ 30,000.00	\$ 30,000.00

MUNICIPAL AND LIBRARY BUILDING GROUNDS

Outstanding Jan. 1, 1923	\$ 5,000.00	
Paid in 1923		\$ 500.00
Outstanding Dec. 31, 1923		4,500.00
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	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 5,000.00

BROWN ESTATE LOANS

Outstanding Jan. 1, 1923	\$ 5,000.00	
Paid in 1923		\$ 500.00
Outstanding Dec. 31, 1923		4,500.00
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	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 5,000.00

SCHOOL BUILDING LOANS

Outstanding Jan. 1, 1923	\$ 21,000.00	
Paid in 1923		\$ 5,000.00
Outstanding Dec. 31, 1923		16,000.00
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	\$ 21,000.00	\$ 21,000.00

RICHARDSON ESTATE LOANS

Outstanding Jan. 1, 1923	\$ 2,500.00	
Paid in 1923		\$ 500.00
Outstanding Dec. 31, 1923		2,000.00
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	\$ 2,500.00	\$ 2,500.00

FUNDED DEBT**Balancing Account**

Total Debt, Jan. 1, 1923	\$468,400.00
Mun. Light Dept. Notes issued in 1923	10,000.00
Playground Property Notes issued in 1923	7,500.00

Paid in 1923

Sewer Department Loans	\$ 4,000.00
Water Department Loans	12,000.00
Light Department Loans	15,800.00
Municipal Building Loans	2,000.00
Municipal Building and Library Grounds Loans..	500.00

Brown Estate Loans	500.00	
School Building Loans	5,000.00	
Richardson Estate Loans	500.00	
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Total Payments, 1923	\$ 40,300.00	
Total Debt Dec. 31, 1923	445,600.00	
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	\$485,900.00	\$485,900.00

SPECIAL DEBT ACCOUNT
FUNDED DEBT MATURING IN 1923

Cr.

Appropriation from Excess & Deficiency Account	\$ 12,500.00
Transfer from Water Dept.	\$ 12,000.00
Transfer from Light Dept.	15,800.00

Dr.

Payment of Loans due in 1923	\$ 40,300.00	
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	\$ 40,300.00	\$ 40,300.00

FUNDED DEBT MATURING IN 1924

Sewer Dept. Loans	\$ 4,000.00
Water Dept. Loans	12,000.00
Light Dept. Loans	15,800.00
Municipal Building Loans	2,000.00
Municipal & Library Building Grounds Loans	500.00
Brown Estate Loans	500.00
Richardson Estate Loans	500.00
School Building Loans	5,000.00
Playground Property Note	2,500.00
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Total	\$ 42,800.00

TOWN DEBT

DETAIL OF PAYMENT BY YEARS

Year	Sewer Dept.	Water Dept.	Mun. Light Dept.	Mun. Bldg.	Brown Estate	Lib. and Mun. Bldg.	School Dept.	Richardson Estate	Wash'g'n St. Playground Property	Totals
1924	\$ 4,000.00	\$12,000.00	\$15,800.00	\$2,000.00	\$500.00	\$500.00	\$5,000.00	\$500.00	\$2,500.00	\$42,800.00
1925	12,000.00	12,000.00	13,800.00	2,000.00	500.00	500.00	5,000.00	500.00	2,500.00	48,800.00
1926	8,000.00	7,000.00	12,800.00	2,000.00	500.00	500.00	1,000.00	500.00	2,500.00	34,800.00
1927	8,000.00	7,000.00	12,800.00	2,000.00	500.00	500.00	1,000.00	500.00		32,300.00
1928	8,000.00	7,000.00	12,800.00	2,000.00	500.00	500.00	1,000.00	500.00		31,800.00
1929	8,000.00	7,000.00	11,800.00	2,000.00	500.00	500.00	1,000.00	500.00		30,800.00
1930	8,000.00	7,000.00	10,800.00	2,000.00	500.00	500.00	1,000.00	500.00		29,800.00
1931	8,000.00	2,000.00	9,000.00	2,000.00	500.00	500.00	1,000.00	500.00		23,000.00
1932	8,000.00	2,000.00	9,000.00	2,000.00	500.00	500.00	1,000.00	500.00		22,000.00
1933	8,000.00	2,000.00	8,000.00	2,000.00	500.00	500.00				20,000.00
1934	7,000.00	2,000.00	6,000.00	2,000.00	500.00	500.00				17,000.00
1935	6,000.00	2,000.00	6,000.00	2,000.00	500.00	500.00				16,000.00
1936	6,000.00	2,000.00	4,000.00	2,000.00	500.00	500.00				14,000.00
1937	6,000.00	1,000.00	2,500.00	2,000.00	500.00	500.00				11,500.00
1938	6,000.00	1,000.00	2,500.00	2,000.00	500.00	500.00				9,500.00
1939	6,000.00	1,000.00	2,500.00	2,000.00	500.00	500.00				9,500.00
1940	6,000.00	1,000.00	1,000.00	2,000.00	500.00	500.00				8,000.00
1941	6,000.00	1,000.00	1,000.00	2,000.00	500.00	500.00				7,000.00
1942	6,000.00	1,000.00			500.00	500.00				7,000.00
1943	6,000.00				500.00	500.00				6,000.00
1944	6,000.00				500.00	500.00				6,000.00
1945	6,000.00				500.00	500.00				6,000.00
1946	6,000.00				500.00	500.00				6,000.00
1947	2,000.00				500.00	500.00				2,000.00
1948	2,000.00				500.00	500.00				2,000.00
1949	2,000.00				500.00	500.00				2,000.00
Totals	\$165,000.00	\$77,000.00	\$141,100.00	\$28,000.00	\$4,500.00	\$4,500.00	\$16,000.00	\$2,000.00	\$7,500.00	\$445,600.00

BORROWING CAPACITY

	Total Valuation	Abatement	Net Valuation
1921	\$ 9,513,847.00	\$88,769.00	\$ 9,425,078.00
1922	9,860,206.00	82,140.00	9,778,066.00
1923	10,410,283.00	51,021.00	10,359,262.00

Average net valuation 3 years, \$9,854,135.00.

Note:—Indebtedness of towns limited to three per cent of valuation of three preceding years (Chap. 44, Sec. 10, G. L.).

Three per cent is		\$295,624.00
Total Debt	\$445,600.00	
Exempted Loans:		
Water Dept.	\$ 77,000.00	
Light Dept.	141,100.00	
Sewer Dept.	165,000.00	
	—————	\$383,100 00
		\$ 62,500.00
Borrowing Capacity, Dec. 31, 1923		\$233,124.00
Increase over 1922		12,653.00

TRUST FUND, CASH AND SECURITIES

On hand Jan. 1, 1923, Bonds	\$ 25,000.00	
Cash, Mechanics Savings Bank	4,505.48	
Deposit, Mechanics Savings Bank,		
Library Trust Fund	100.00	
Deposits, Mechanics Savings Bank,		
Cemetery Bequests for Perpetual Care	2,950.00	
Deposits, Mechanics Savings Bank,		
Interest on Bonds	1,058.79	
Interest on Savings Bank Deposits	265.93	
	—————	\$ 33,880.20
Less Bonds Matured	\$ 1,500.00	
Withdrawn from Mechanics Savings Bank,		
for Cemetery Funds	\$ 1,152.19	\$ 2,652.19
	—————	\$ 31,228.10
Deposit, Mechanics Savings Bank, am't Matured		
Bonds		1,500.00
On hand Dec. 31, 1923		
Bonds, per list below	\$ 23,500.00	
Cash, Mechanics Savings Bank,		
per pass books	9,228.01	
	—————	\$ 32,728.01
		\$ 32,728.01

CEMETERY BEQUEST FUND

For Perpetual Care

On hand Jan. 1, 1923, Bonds	\$ 25,000.00
Cash, Mechanics Savings Bank	4,438.92
Deposits, Mechanics Savings Bank,	
Interest on Bonds	1,058.79
Interest on deposit, Mech. Sav. Bank	260.87

Bequests 1923	Amounts
Bertha G. Temple	\$ 100.00
Henry T. Leavis	100.00
Edith A. Tipper	100.00
Cora J. Jaquith	100.00
Horace Brown	100.00
M. Elma Pierce	100.00
Adolph S. Larson	100.00
Elmer J. Brown	100.00
Hazen K. Symonds	100.00
Nellie A. Richardson	100.00
Harriett E. Richardson	100.00
Arthur N. Mansfield	100.00
Grace E. Shepardson	50.00
G. G. Clouse	75.00
W. E. & J. F. Twombly	100.00
Susan G. Putnam	100.00
Mary C. Richardson	100.00
Mrs. Arthur O. Fuller	100.00
Carl M. Spencer	100.00
E. L. Wright, Tr.	100.00
Arthur H. Cook	25.00
Edith M. Martin	100.00
Eliza Talbot	100.00
Lucy Mack Est.	100.00
Alden S. Johnson	50.00
Frank A. Colby	100.00
Louise B. Jenkins	100.00
Grace L. Twombly	100.00
George W. Davis	50.00
Mary A. Lowell	50.00
Carl O. Carlson	50.00
J. A. Gatz	100.00
H. E. Cummings	100.00
	<hr/>
	\$ 2,950.00
	<hr/>
	\$ 33,708.58

Less Bonds matured	\$ 1,500.00	
Withdrawn from Mechanics Savings Bank, for Cemetery Fund	\$ 1,152.19	
	<hr/>	\$ 2,652.19
		<hr/>
		\$ 31,056.39
Deposit Mechanics Savings Bank amount of		
Matured Bonds		\$ 1,500.00
On hand Dec. 31, 1923		
Bonds per list	\$ 23,500.00	
Cash, Mechanics Savings Bank, per pass book	9,056.39	
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	\$ 32,556.39	\$ 32,556.39

LAUREL HILL CEMETERY—BEQUEST FUND

\$9,000 U. S. Liberty, 4¼ Oct. 15, 1938, purchased 10-15-18 to yield about 4.25% at 100	
\$3,000 U. S. Liberty, 4¼ Oct. 15, 1938, purchased 7-19-21 to yield about 5.39% at 87.00	
\$ 700 U. S. Liberty, 4¼ Sept. 15, 1928, purchased 2-8-19 to yield about 4.92% at 95.02	
\$2,000 U. S. Liberty, 4¼ Sept. 15, 1928, purchased 7-26-19 to yield about 4.94% at 95.04	
\$2,100 U. S. Liberty, 4¼ Sept. 15, 1928, purchased 2-14-20 to yield about 5.21% at 93.44	
\$ 500 U. S. Liberty, 4¼ Sept. 15, 1928, purchased 4-26-20 to yield about 5.70% at 90.60	
\$ 500 U. S. Liberty, 4¼ Sept. 15, 1928, purchased 4-26-20 to yield about 5.71% at 90.76	
\$2,200 U. S. Liberty 4¼ Sept. 15, 1928, purchased 7-19-20 to yield about 6.06% at 88.58	
\$1,800 U. S. Liberty, 4¼ Sept. 15, 1928, purchased 11-22-20 to yield about 6.07% at 88.76	
\$ 700 U. S. Liberty, 4¼ Sept. 15, 1928, purchased 2-8-21 to yield about 5.90% at 90.10	
\$1,000 U. S. Liberty, 4¼ Sept. 15, 1928, purchased 4-17-21 to yield about 5.76% at 90.84	
\$9,056.39, Mechanics Savings Bank, on Deposit, to yield about 5.00%	
Average yield 5.03%	

GEO F. BUCK FUND

On hand Jan. 1, 1923, Mechanics Savings Bank..	\$ 66.56	
Interest 1923	3.18	
On hand Dec. 31, 1923 per pass book		\$ 69.74
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	\$ 69.74	\$ 69.74

PUBLIC LIBRARY FUND

Deposited Mechanics Savings Bank, B. L. Faben's		
legacy	\$	100.00
Interest 1923		1.88
On hand Dec. 31, 1923, per pass book	\$	101.88
	<hr/>	
	\$	101.88
	\$	101.88

UNPAID BILLS, DEC. 31, 1923

Selectmen's Expenses:

W. E. & J. F. Twombly	\$	12.25	
Clyde M. Simonds		2.50	
	<hr/>		\$ 12.75

Town Clerk's Expenses:

W. E. & J. F. Twombly	\$	4.00	
Edgerly & Bessom		15.50	
	<hr/>		\$ 19.50

Election Expenses:

Security Lodge, I. O. O. F.			\$ 15.00
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Board of Health:

W. E. & J. F. Twombly	\$	3.04	
American Ry. Exp. Co.		2.45	
	<hr/>		\$ 5.49

Poor Department:

Mass. State Prison	\$	1.57	
Comm. of Mass. Div. of			
Child Guardianship		40.00	
Edgerly & Bessom		15.00	
Clyde M. Simonds		10.00	
	<hr/>		\$ 66.57

Poor Dept., Board and Care:

W. H. Willis			\$ 10.15
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School Department:

F. M. Crosby	\$	6.50	
Eastern Mass. St. Ry. Co.		275.00	
Jennie Mackie		1.80	
T. C. Fife		548.28	
Stewart & Robertson		1,117.79	
W. E. & J. F. Twombly		141.50	
Zanni & Co.		49.39	
	<hr/>		\$ 2,140.26
			<hr/>
			\$ 2,269.72

TOWN OF READING

BALANCE SHEET DEC. 31, 1923

GENERAL ACCOUNTS

Cash in Banks and Office		\$ 31,958.91	Temporary Loans		\$100,000.00
Taxes and Assessments Receivable:			Overlays Received for Abatements:		
Taxes, 1920	\$ 249.33		For 1920 Taxes	\$ 249.33	
Taxes, 1921	229.39		For 1921 Taxes	229.39	
Taxes, 1922	1,824.45		For 1923 Taxes	3,625.10	
Taxes, 1923	105,886.52				
Moth, 1923	409.50		Overlay Reserve Fund		4,013.82
Sewer Asst. Appor'n, 1923	733.81		Moth Assessments, Revenue		427.26
Sewer Asst. Appor'n, Interest	322.46		Sewer Assessments, Revenue		409.50
Sewer Asst. Unappor'n	80.35		Sewer Rentals, Revenue		1,145.62
Sewer Rentals	51.00		Sidewalk Assessments, Revenue ..		51.00
Sidewalk Assessments	43.40		Sewer Asst. Revenue due in 1924 ..	1,970.95	43.40
		109,839.21	Sewer Asst. Revenue due in 1925 ..	1,882.63	
Departmental Accounts Receivable:			Sewer Asst. Revenue due in 1926 ..	1,665.95	
Comm. of Mass., Mothers' Aid ..	1,609.42		Sewer Asst. Revenue due in 1927 ..	1,249.52	
Comm. of Mass., Temporary Aid ..	1,912.05		Sewer Asst. Revenue due in 1928 ..	1,199.44	
Comm. of Mass., State Aid	384.00		Sewer Asst. Revenue due in 1929 ..	1,199.44	
Town of Wilmington, Tuition ..	62.11		Sewer Asst. Revenue due in 1930 ..	1,199.44	
City of Melrose, Tuition	186.33		Sewer Asst. Revenue due in 1931 ..	1,199.92	
City of Boston, Tuition	1,320.01				
Comm. of Mass., Tuition	704.20		Departmental Accounts Rec., Revenue		11,567.29
U. S. Veterans Bureau, Tuition ..	1,080.85		Water Dept. Account Rec., Revenue		10,655.52
					211.49

BALANCE SHEET (Continued)

Town of Tewksbury, Tuition ..	62.11
Sundry Parties, Tuition	131.00
Sundry Parties, Board of Health	537.50
Moth Bills, 1923	1,681.25
Sundry Parties, Cemetery Dept.	700.36
Sundry Parties, Sealer W. & M.	23.03
Sundry Parties, Fire Dept.	50.00
Sundry Parties, Misc. Accts.	142.00
Sundry Parties, Highway Dept.	69.30
<hr/>	
Sewer Ass't Appor'n Rec. 1924-1931	10,655.52
Water Dept. Accounts Rec.	11,567.29
Municipal Light Dept. Accounts Rec.	211.49
Tax Titles held by Town	21,918.28
Overlay Account, 1922, Overdraft ..	3,958.04
Insurance Account, Overdraft	41.25
Poor Dept. Account, Overdraft	469.32
Mothers' Aid Account, Overdraft	1,184.95
Temporary Aid Account, Overdraft ..	346.56
Industrial Tuition Act., Overdraft	109.05
<hr/>	
Municipal Light Dept. balance loan	308.36
<hr/>	
	2,459.49
<hr/>	
	700.00
<hr/>	
	\$193,268.23

DEBT ACCOUNTS

Net Funded Debt	\$445,600.00	Sewer Construction Loans	\$165,000.00
		Water Department Loans	77,000.00
		Municipal Light Department Loans	141,100.00
		Municipal Building Loans	28,000.00
		Mun. Building & Library Gds. Loans	4,500.00
		Brown Estate Loan	4,500.00
		School Building Loans	16,000.00
		Richardson Estate Loans	2,000.00
		Playground Purchase Notes	7,500.00
	<hr/>		<hr/>
	\$445,600.00		\$445,600.00

TRUST FUNDS

Trust Funds, Cash and Securities ..	32,728.01	Cemetery Bequest Fund for Perpetual Care	\$ 32,556.39
		George F. Buck Fund	69.74
		Public Library Fund	101.88
	<hr/>		<hr/>
	\$ 32,728.01		32,728.01
	<hr/>		<hr/>
	\$ 32,728.01		\$ 32,728.01

Twenty-ninth Annual Report

OF THE

Electric Light Commissioners

For the Year Ending December 31

1923

OFFICERS OF THE ELECTRIC LIGHT AND POWER DEPARTMENT

Commissioners

WILLIAM G. LONG, Chairman	Term expires 1926
HERBERT G. EVANS, Secretary	Term expires 1924
HARRY P. BAKER	Term expires 1925

Manager

ARTHUR G. SIAS

Office

MUNICIPAL BUILDING

MANAGER'S REPORT

To the Municipal Light Board:

Gentlemen:—I respectfully submit herewith my report of the operation of the Municipal Light Plant for the year ending December 31, 1923.

The financial part of the report is arranged in accordance with the classification of accounts as prescribed by the Department of Public Utilities, and is followed by my comments on the year's business, the estimate for 1924, and statistical data pertaining to the plant.

Electric Operating Revenues

Metered Sales to Private Consumers:

Lighting	\$ 91,518.13	
Power	29,945.76	
Cooking & Heating	12,435.91	
		\$133,899.80

Flat Rate Sales to Private Consumers:

Private Street Lights	\$ 315.23
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Municipal Revenues:

Street Lighting, Reading	\$ 14,800.00	
Street Lighting, Lynnfield Centre	1,741.55	
Street Lighting, North Reading	3,714.12	
Street Lighting, Wilmington	7,533.00	
Municipal Lighting, Reading	2,075.47	
Municipal Power, Reading	2,508.83	
Power sold to Wakefield	60.86	
Power sold to Lowell Elect. Lt. Corp.	134.46	
		\$ 32,568.29

Total Revenue from Sales of Electric Energy	\$166,783.32
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Rent from Property Used in Operation:

Rental of Pole Lines	464.31
Total Electric Operating Revenues	\$167,247.63

OPERATING EXPENSES—ELECTRIC

Production

Operation:

Superintendence and Labor	\$ 17,424.86
Boiler Fuel	40,920.54

Water for Steam	216.16	
Lubricants	126.78	
Station Supplies and Expenses	730.41	
	<hr/>	\$ 59,418.75

Maintenance:

Maintenance of Station Structures	\$ 695.04	
Maintenance of Boiler Plant Equipment ..	1,359.07	
Maintenance of Turbo-Generator Units	811.17	
Maintenance of Electric Generating Equip.	174.18	
Maintenance of Accessory Electric Equip.	157.29	
Maint. of Misc. Power Plant Equip.	4.07	
	<hr/>	\$ 3,200.82
Electric Energy Purchased	113.26	
Total Production Expenses		\$ 62,732.83

Transmission, Distribution and Storage

Operation:

Operation of Transmission and Dis- tribution Lines	\$ 3,689.28	
Transmission and Distribution Supplies and Expenses	872.82	
Inspecting and Testing Meters	1,015.62	
Removing and Resetting Meters	519.69	
Removing and Resetting Transformers	652.66	
	<hr/>	\$ 6,750.07

Maintenance:

Maintenance of Transmission and Dis- tribution Lines	\$ 8,897.55	
Maintenance of Consumers' Meters	352.20	
Maintenance of Transformers	287.78	\$ 9,537.53
	<hr/>	
Total Transmission, Distribution and Storage Expenses		\$ 16,287.60

Utilization

Operation:

Municipal Street Lamps, Labor	\$ 837.81	
Municipal Street Lamps, Supplies & Exp.	1,336.86	
	<hr/>	\$ 2,174.67

Maintenance:

Maintenance of Municipal Street Lamps ..	\$ 228.23	
Maintenance of Commere'l Lighting Equip.	2.06	
Maintenance of Consumers' Installations .	1,554.98	1,785.27
	<hr/>	
Total Utilization Expenses		\$ 3,959.94

Commercial

Commercial Salaries	\$ 6,176.52	
Commercial Supplies and Expenses	1,985.05	
	<hr/>	
Total Commercial Expenses		\$ 8,161.57

New Business

New Business Salaries	\$ 1,517.87	
New Business Supplies and Expenses	33.72	
Advertising	556.70	
Wiring and Appliances	24.27	
	<hr/>	
Total New Business Expenses		\$ 2,132.56

General and Miscellaneous

Salaries of Municipal Light Board and Manager	\$ 3,524.92	
Salaries of General Office Clerks	2,397.78	
General Office Supplies and Expenses	1,099.71	
Law Expense, General	29.00	
Insurance	5,287.46	
Accidents and Damages .....	.40	
Store Expenses	246.35	
Transportation Expenses	1,664.46	
Inventory Adjustments	988.12	
Depreciation	19,011.08	
Miscellaneous General Expenses	368.91	
	<hr/>	
Total General and Miscellaneous Expenses		\$ 34,618.19
Grand Total Operating Expenses		\$127,892.69

Income Statement for the Year**Operating Income:**

Operating Revenues	\$167,247.63	
Operating Expenses	127,892.69	
	<hr/>	
Net Operating Revenue		\$ 39,354.94
Uncollectible Operating Revenues	\$ 722.91	
Taxes Assignable to Electric Operations ..	514.50	1,237.41
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Net Operating Income		\$ 38,117.53

Non-Operating Income:

Merchandise and Jobbing Revenue	\$ 6,810.93	
	<hr/>	
Total Non-Operating Income		\$ 6,810.93
	<hr/>	
Gross Income		\$ 31,303.60

Deductions from Gross Income:

Interest on Bonds and Notes	\$ 6,437.28	
Total Deductions from Gross Income		\$ 6,437.28
Income Balance trans. to Profit and Loss ..		\$ 24,869.32

Profit and Loss Statement

Credit Balance at Beginning of Fiscal Period ..		\$ 11,441.13
Credit Balance Transferred from Income Acct.		24,869.32
Other Deductions from Surplus (Bonds and Notes Paid)	\$ 15,800.00	
Balance carried forward to Bal. Sheet	20,510.45	
Total	\$ 36,310.45	\$ 36,310.45

COMPARATIVE GENERAL BALANCE SHEET**ASSETS****Investments**

Balance at Beginning of year		Balance at Close of year	Net change
\$344,670.95	Plant Investment	\$353,790.39	\$ 9,119.44
3,781.50	General Equipment	5,137.00	1,355.50
\$348,452.45	Total Investments	\$358,927.39	\$ 10,474.94

Current Assets

\$ 153.45	Cash	\$ 999.50	\$ 846.05
872.85	Special Deposits	963.87	91.02
18,071.12	Accounts Receivable	21,918.28	3,847.16
26,403.34	Materials and Supplies	31,917.11	5,513.77
\$ 45,500.76	Total Current Assets	\$ 55,798.76	\$ 10,298.00

Prepaid Accounts

\$ 2,697.36	Prepaid Insurance	\$ 3,472.41	\$ 775.05
\$ 2,697.36	Total Prepaid Accounts	\$ 3,472.41	\$ 775.05
\$396,650.57	Grand Total	\$418,198.56	\$ 21,547.99

COMPARATIVE GENERAL BALANCE SHEET

Liabilities

Balance at Beginning of year		Balance at Close of year	Net change
Appropriation			
\$ 30,678.26	Appropriations for Construction	\$ 30,678.26	
Bonds and Notes Payable			
\$133,000.00	Bonds	\$119,000.00	\$ 14,000.00
13,900.00	Notes Payable	22,100.00	8,200.00
<hr/>		<hr/>	<hr/>
\$146,900.00	Total Bonds and Notes Payable	\$141,100.00	\$ 5,800.00
Current Liabilities			
\$ 16,097.29	Accounts Payable	\$ 17,936.41	\$ 1,839.12
872.05	Consumers' Deposits	963.07	91.02
<hr/>		<hr/>	<hr/>
\$ 16,969.34	Total Current Liabilities	\$ 18,899.48	\$ 1,930.14
Accrued Liabilities			
\$ 1,661.84	Interest Accrued	\$ 1,510.37	\$ 151.47
	Town Treasurer, Loan	700.00	700.00
<hr/>		<hr/>	<hr/>
\$ 1,661.84	Total Accrued Liabilities	\$ 2,210.37	\$ 548.53
Appropriated Surplus			
\$189,000.00	Loans Repayment	\$204,800.00	\$ 15,800.00
<hr/>		<hr/>	<hr/>
\$189,000.00	Total Appropriated Surplus	\$204,800.00	\$ 15,800.00
Profit and Loss			
\$ 11,441.13	Profit and Loss, Balance	\$ 20,510.45	\$ 9,069.32
<hr/>		<hr/>	<hr/>
\$396,650.57	Grand Total	\$418,198.56	\$ 21,547.99

PLANT INVESTMENT ACCOUNTS—ELECTRIC

	Balance at Beginning of year	Additions during year	Depreciation other credits during year	Balance at close of year
Plant Investment				
Land	\$ 2,575.80			\$ 2,575.80
Structures	20,658.81	\$ 10.48		20,669.29
Boiler Plant Equipment	41,966.73	35.63	\$ 2,518.00	39,484.36
Prime Movers and Aux- iliaries	20,230.32		1,213.82	19,016.50

Turbo Generator Units	31,547.66		1,892.86	29,654.80
Electric Plant, Steam	21,416.02	50.40	1,284.96	20,181.46
Poles, Fixtures and Over- head Conductors	133,337.54	16,569.28	8,000.25	141,906.57
Consumers' Meters	27,505.60	5,176.54	1,100.23	31,581.91
Consumers' Meter Instal- lation	3,745.24	544.50	224.72	4,065.02
Line Transformers	25,669.08	5,215.89	1,155.11	29,729.86
Transformer Installation	3,392.93	270.00	203.58	3,459.34
Street Lighting Equipment	12,625.23	257.80	1,417.55	11,465.48

Total Plant Investment	\$344,670.95	\$ 28,130.52	\$ 19,011.08	\$353,790.39
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General Equipment

Office Equipment	\$ 1,981.50	\$ 405.50		\$ 2,387.00
Transportation Equip.	1,800.00	950.00		2,750.00

Total General Equipment	\$ 3,781.50	\$ 1,355.50		\$ 5,137.00
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Total Cost of all Prop'ty	\$348,452.45	\$ 29,486.02	\$ 19,011.08	\$358,927.39
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TOTAL COST OF PLANT

Cost of Land	\$ 2,575.80		
Cost of Structures	27,298.94		
			\$ 29,874.74

Generating Plant, Steam:

Cost of Boiler Plant Equipment	\$ 63,627.53		
Cost of Prime Movers and Auxiliaries	29,013.38		
Cost of Turbo-Generator Units	46,870.83		
Cost of Electric Pant, Steam	30,424.33		
			\$169,936.07

Transmission, Distribution and Storage:

Cost of Poles, Fixtures and Overhead Conductors	\$192,795.36		
Cost of Consumers' Meters	42,830.58		
Cost of Consumers' Meter Installation	5,385.56		
Cost of Line Transformers	40,551.65		
Cost of Transformers Installation	4,729.40		
			\$286,292.55

Utilization Equipment:

Cost of Street Lighting Equipment	\$ 19,879.92	\$ 19,879.92
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Total Cost of Electric Plant as shown by the books				\$505,983.28
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CASH BALANCES AT CLOSE OF YEAR

Construction Fund	\$ 999.50
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Depreciation Fund Account**DEBITS**

Balance of account at beginning of year	
Amount transferred from income	\$ 19,011.08
Total	\$ 19,011.08

CREDITS

Amount expended for construction pur.	\$ 19,011.08
Balance on hand at close of year	

Materials and Supplies

Coal	\$ 7,809.24
Oil	97.87
Electrical Appliances	9,421.79
Miscellaneous Materials and Supplies	14,588.21
Total	\$ 31,917.11

Construction Fund**DEBIT**

Balance at beginning of year	\$ 153.45
Transferred from Depreciation Fund	19,011.08
Construction sold during year	2,705.70
Appropriation	10,000.00

Total Debits	\$ 31,870.23
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CREDIT

Amount expended for Additions and Ext.	\$ 30,870.73
Balance at end of year	999.50

Total Credits	\$ 31,870.23
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Operation Fund**DEBIT**

Balance at beginning of year	
Received from Sale of Electricity	\$151,239.49
Received from Aprop. for Street Lights	14,800.00
Received from Misc. Items	31,483.13

Total Debits	\$197,522.62
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CREDIT

Expenditures for Operating Accounts	\$156,274.26
Bonds Paid	11,000.00
Notes Paid	4,800.00
Interest Paid	6,437.28
Amount Trans. to Depreciation Fund	19,011.08
<hr/>	
Total Credits	\$197,522.62
<hr/>	

The business for 1923 shows a substantial gain over 1922.

The kilowatt hours generated increased 16.5% and the kilowatt hours sold increased 26.3%.

The kilowatt hours lost and unaccounted for was 6.3% less than last year, the loss being 15.3%.

The kilowatt hours sold for lighting increased 16%, for power 37.4% and for cooking, heating and battery charging 51.6%.

The increase in kilowatt hours sold in theseveral towns was: Reading 27%, North Reading 22.3%, Wilmington 24.6% and Lynnfield Center 29.5%.

The income from sale of current shows an increase of 7.3%, the increase in each town being as follows: Reading 7.1%, North Reading 6.6%, Wilmington 7.7%, and Lynnfield Center 10%.

The operating expenses show an increase of 10.1% as compared with an increase of 26.3% in current sold.

The net amount of Bonds and Notes outstanding is \$141,100.00 which is a reduction of \$5,800.00 from last year.

The inventory of supplies on hand shows an increase of \$6,869.27.

The accounts receivable show a gain of \$3,847.16 and accounts payable \$1,799.12.

The Profit and Loss surplus has been increased by \$9,069.32 and is now \$20,510.45.

The cost of manufacturing at the power station was 2.05 cents per kilowatt hours or about 14.6% less than last year.

The average total cost per kilowatt hour as defined by statute was 6.15 cents as compared with 8.4 cents in 1922, a decrease of 26.8%.

The Center Street Light Circuit has been operated 3970 hours, and the remaining circuits 3417 hours. The North Reading and Lynnfield Center Street Light Circuits have been operated 1733 hours and the Wilmington Street Light Circuit 2138 hours.

The number of each size of street lamps renewed during the year was 1946-40 c. p., 1057-60 c. p., 24-100 c. p., 208-250 c. p., and 49-600 c. p.

We have installed the following new street lights during the year: Reading—4 public and 3 private; North Reading—7 public; and Wilmington—2 private lights.

The increase in the number of customers was 432 apportioned among the towns as follows: Reading 230, North Reading 59, Wilmington 103, and Lynnfield Center 40.

The greatest load on the power station during the year was 940 kilowatts, an increase of 110 kilowatts over 1922.

Repairs have been made to the coal trestle costing \$504.88.

Material has been purchased for a new service pipe for the station water supply and it is being installed by the Water Department. This will give us a hose connection in the power station for use in case of fire.

The Water Department has also installed a new hydrant on Ash Street within 200 feet of the power station, which, I understand, will enable us to obtain a reduction in the fire insurance rate.

We have built a brick oil room in the basement of the power station and have covered the doors and casings between the boiler room and engine room with metal in order to effect a further reduction in the cost of fire insurance.

LAMP AND APPLIANCE DEPARTMENT

The business done by this department has very materially increased, the total value of lamps and appliances sold being \$28,488.23.

The following appliances have been sold: 81 ranges, 13 water heaters, 17 motors, 28 motor-driven pumps, 9 washing machines, 4 sewing machines, 48 radiators, 10 waffle irons, 12 table stoves, 62 flat irons, 4 percolators, 34 reading lamps, 20 toasters, 60 vacuum cleaners, 6 hot plates, 2 Violet Ray outfits, 4 vibrators, 5 sewing machine motors, 14 curling irons, 9 heating pads, 4 Christmas tree sets, 3 battery chargers, 2 storage batteries, 1 electric drill, 2 dishwashers, 4 refrigerating outfits, 19 fans, 2 air pumps, 2 blowers, 1 hair-dryer, and 2 fireless cookers.

NEW BUSINESS

An aggressive effort has been made during the past year to secure additional revenue from customers on existing lines, and particularly to popularize the use of our service for cooking, water heating, and refrigeration, and as a special inducement to customers on our lines, we offered to install, without charge for wiring, any ranges or water heaters purchased before July 1st. We secured the co-operation of Clapp & Leach and J. M. Maxwell, Jr., & Son, and arranged for an Electric Show in Security Hall on April 3rd and 4th. It was very successful as was attested by the crowd which filled the hall on both days, to learn more about the various uses of electricity in the home. This gave our new business campaign a good start and as a result of persistent follow-up work, we have connected during the year 144 electric ranges and 26 water heaters, and our revenue from this class of business has increased from \$8,213.43 in 1922 to \$12,435.91 in 1923. The net loss in Merchandise and Jobbing Revenue was \$6,810.93, which averages \$45.71 for each installation.

The reduction of 2 cents per kilowatt hour in the lighting rates which went into effect March 1st, has resulted in a saving to customers of approximately \$11,800.00, but notwithstanding this the gain in operating was over \$9,000.00 for the year.

I recommend a further reduction in the lighting rates of 1 cent per kilowatt hour to take effect March 1, 1924.

I recommend also that all street lights in Reading be lighted all night and every night instead of simply those in the center of the town as at present, as there are many dark streets outside of the center, even on moonlight nights, and I believe that the citizens who live outside the radius covered by the center street light circuit are entitled to better street-lighting service.

My estimate for 1924 is herewith submitted and is followed by statistical data from the office records, and a list of bills remaining unpaid.

ESTIMATE FOR 1924

Expenses

For operation, maintenance and repairs	\$118,674.50	
For interest on bonds and notes	6,343.00	
For depreciation (4% on \$503,407.48)	20,136.30	
For bond payments	11,500.00	
For note payments	4,300.00	
For taxes	600.00	
For uncollectible operating revenues	900.00	
	<hr/>	
Total Expenses		\$162,453.80

Income

From sales to private consumers	\$155,598.50	
From sundry items	450.00	
From tax levy (at average cost per K. W. H. as defined by statute):		
For Street Lights	\$12,000.00	
For Municipal Buildings	1,820.00	13,820.00
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total Income		\$169,868.50

Respectfully submitted,

ARTHUR G. SIAS, Manager.

The Manager's report, as herewith submitted, is approved.

WILLIAM G. LONG,

HERBERT G. EVANS,

HARRY P. BAKER,

Municipal Light Board.

DATA FROM RECORDS OF PLANT

Kilowatt hours purchased	3,520
Kilowatt hours manufactured	3,039,677
Kilowatt hours for Reading Street Lights	183,935
Kilowatt hours sold	2,046,848
Kilowatt hours used at station and office	342,189
Kilowatt hours unaccounted for	470,225
Coal used, net tons	4,577.7
Average cost of coal per net ton	\$8.94
Poles added	121
Feet of wire added	238,938
Motors connected	63
New services installed	357
Street lamps installed	16

Connected Load December 31, 1923

Number of customers	3,666
Horse power in motors	1,367.5
Number of public street lights	1,474
Number of private street lights	20

Reading

Number of customers December 31, 1923	2,256
Number of 40 candle power public street lights	3
Number of 60 candle power public street lights	483
Number of 100 candle power public street lights	16
Number of 250 candle power public street lights	59
Number of 600 candle power public street lights	25
Number of 60 candle power private street lights	6
Number of 250 candle power private street lights	1
Horse power in motors	1,071.2
Earnings for year	\$113,986.64

Lynnfield Center Extension

Number of customers December 31, 1923	261
Number of 40 candle power public street lights	128
Number of 40 candle power private street lights	3
Horse power in motors	40.5
Earnings for year	\$ 8,681.55

North Reading Extension

Number of customers December 31, 1923	363
Number of 40 candle power public street lights	277
Number of 40 candle power private street lights	3
Horse power in motors	164.4
Earning for year	\$ 16,484.70

Wilmington Extension

Number of customers December 31, 1923	786
Number of 40 candle power public street lights	486
Number of 40 candle power private street lights	7
Horse power in motors	91.4
Earnings for year	\$ 27,706.45

COST OF DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM IN OUTSIDE TOWNS**Lynnfield**

Total investment to December 31, 1923:

Poles, Fixtures and Overhead Conductors ..	\$ 16,442.14	
Consumers' Meters	2,733.32	
Line Transformers	2,297.88	
Street Lighting Equipment	1,234.88	
		<hr/>
		\$ 22,708.22

North Reading

Total investment to December 31, 1923:

Poles, Fixtures and Overhead Conductors ..	\$ 36,474.40	
Consumers' Meters	3,953.70	
Line Transformers	4,404.48	
Street Lighting Equipment	2,151.98	
		<hr/>
		\$ 46,984.56

Wilmington

Total investment to December 31, 1923:

Poles, Fixtures and Overhead Conductors ..	\$ 63,716.95	
Consumers' Meters	6,139.85	
Line Transformers	5,863.42	
Street Lighting Equipment	3,290.52	
		<hr/>
		\$ 79,010.74

Total Investment—Outside Towns 148,703.52

Total Income—Outside Towns, 1923 52,872.70

Earnings from Light and Power—5 Years

	1919	1920	1921	1922	1923
Light	\$ 86,221.78	\$ 92,850.17	\$197,342.66	\$119,815.79	\$121,697.50
Power	29,072.32	33,301.94	28,544.03	35,689.35	45,085.82
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	\$115,294.10	\$126,152.11	\$135,886.69	\$155,505.14	\$166,783.32

Note—The above table includes the income from the appropriation for street lights and Municipal Buildings.

TABLE A

Year	Income from Sale of Electricity	Income from Other Sources	Appropriations for Maintenance from Tax Levy	Appropriations for Construction from Tax Levy	Manufacturing Expense	Distribution and Utilization Expense	Miscellaneous Expense	Interest	Depreciation	Bond and Note Payment	Total Cost of Plant December 31
1910	\$25,668.87	\$604.88	\$10,000.00	\$270.00	\$13,228.57	\$3,271.76	\$4,429.32	\$2,535.75	\$3,556.00	\$4,000.00	\$135,992.62
1911	31,317.40	410.77	5,800.00	1,000.00	13,066.25	6,353.77	5,753.84	2,767.00	4,079.78	4,500.00	144,714.06
1912	37,171.93	599.07	5,000.00	5,500.00	17,546.87	5,605.41	5,605.18	3,018.21	4,143.80	7,200.00	173,091.96
1913	44,664.70	671.87	6,000.00	5,076.19	20,054.99	10,705.42	10,214.88	3,515.40	4,788.80	6,800.00	202,518.81
1914	49,799.75	791.14	4,500.00	4,132.07	19,014.03	7,784.82	8,697.05	4,453.33	6,051.08	9,000.00	233,509.58
1915	51,603.32	640.25	10,500.00	none	18,292.78	10,329.83	7,730.32	4,640.42	6,972.28	9,500.00	254,349.09
1916	61,900.01	911.69	5,000.00	none	22,261.19	13,986.22	8,316.39	4,704.99	7,597.47	10,800.00	269,898.27
1917	67,593.64	2,422.92	8,750.00	none	30,460.16	14,557.81	11,577.08	5,070.43	8,096.95	11,300.00	285,428.29
1918	78,096.09	1,537.86	11,000.00	none	41,006.13	13,572.51	11,311.54	6,882.24	8,529.85	14,800.00	348,871.08
1919	100,844.10	1,100.11	14,450.00	none	45,006.98	13,864.14	13,874.46	7,416.21	10,419.76	14,800.00	389,564.73
1920	126,152.11	1,094.66	11,000.00	none	56,187.74	17,085.95	17,142.48	7,850.70	15,507.13	18,300.00	421,048.20
1921	135,886.69	219.20	17,500.00	none	52,738.98	24,453.15	16,594.65	7,423.10	16,767.55	19,300.00	449,540.12
1922	155,505.14	451.50	15,300.00	none	55,137.36	22,473.04	38,489.58	6,807.64	17,959.59	16,800.00	477,852.76
1923	166,783.32	464.31	14,800.00	none	62,619.57	20,247.54	15,607.11	6,437.28	19,011.08	15,800.00	505,983.28

TABLE B

Year	K. W. H. Generated	K. W. H. Sold	K. W. H. Delivered to Reading St. Lights	K. W. H. Used at Station Stock Room and Appliance Room	K. W. H. Unaccounted For	Net Tons of Coal Used	Average Cost of Coal Per Ton	Number of Customers	Number of Street Lights	Horse Power in Motors
1910	698,597	300,861	227,100	16,269	154,337	1,748.3	3,461	738	269	116 1-2
1911	771,011	307,317	244,055	15,403	144,236	1,807.6	3,341	888	382	215
1912	919,282	481,801	242,033	13,307	182,141	2,247.8	3,741	1,078	698	242 1-4
1913	1,045,592	599,893	255,744	15,283	174,612	2,680	3,941	1,263	903	272
1914	986,476	578,709	187,590	15,283	204,814	2,496.4	3,666	1,390	993	313 7-10
1915	980,688	548,607	156,505	10,403	265,173	2,298.2	3,578	1,599	1,181	381
1916	1,231,677	751,735	170,810	13,916	295,266	2,741.7	3,934	1,805	1,225	443
1917	1,291,216	812,507	168,535	12,464	297,710	3,086.7	6,348	1,964	1,295	492
1918	1,318,546	976,121	125,820	10,573	206,012	3,348.8	7,875	2,083	1,303	672
1919	2,056,834	1,358,028	172,948	189,067	336,791	3,640	7,517	2,333	1,339	886
1920	2,297,237	1,444,960	175,704	257,999	418,574	3,615	10,352	2,617	1,363	812.5
1921	2,193,092	1,471,698	178,892	146,206	396,246	3,308.4	10,171	2,939	1,473	1120.5
1922	2,609,076	1,583,716	183,250	276,477	565,633	3,791.5	9,00	3,234	1,481	1197.5
1923	3,039,677	2,046,848	183,935	342,189	470,225	4577.7	8.94	3,666	1,494	1367.5

Note: 3520 K.W.H. purchased in 1923 from Lynn Gas and Electric Co.

TABLE C

Manufacturing Costs Per K. W. H. Based on Total K. W. H. Delivered
at Switchboard

Year	Fuel	Labor	Repairs and Other Station Expenses	Total Costs
1910	.0086	.0075	.0026	.0187
1911	.0078	.0069	.0021	.0168
1912	.0091	.0071	.0027	.0189
1913	.0101	.0070	.0020	.0191
1914	.0092	.0082	.0017	.0191
1915	.0085	.0087	.0013	.0185
1916	.0087	.0071	.0022	.0180
1917	.0144	.0075	.0015	.0234
1918	.0200	.0085	.0025	.0310
1919	.0133	.0066	.0019	.0218
1920	.0162	.0071	.0009	.0242
1921	.0153	.0077	.0009	.0240
1922	.0131	.0066	.0014	.0211
1923	.0134	.0057	.0014	.0205

TABLE D

Average Cost Per K. W. H. As Defined by Chapter 164, General Laws

	1912	1913	1914	1915	1916	1917	1918	1919	1920
Operating Costs:	.0397	.0483	.0362	.0586	.0467	.0577	.0538	.0509	.0558
Fixed Costs:	.0198	.0176	.0254	.0299	.0261	.0249	.0274	.0213	.0259
Total Costs	.0595	.0659	.0616	.0885	.0728	.0826	.0812	.0722	.0817
	1921	1922	1923						
Operating Costs:	.0640	.0561	.0494						
Fixed Costs:	.0330	.0278	.0185						
Total Costs:	.0970	.0839	.0679						

LIST OF UNPAID BILLS

Andren, Karl, Co.	\$	60.00
Bancroft, Wendell & Co.		33.30
Bennett, Van I.		35.94
Braman, Dow & Co.		19.34
Boston Lumber Co.		309.00
Boston & Maine R.R.		127.00
Buckminster, Geo., Co.		1,907.11
Central Garage		33.25
Charles, M. F.		5.95
Clapp & Leach		14.54

Condit Elec. Mfg. Co.	72.59
Columbia Lamp Division	1,034.98
Dallman, H. I., Co.	7.20
Eureka Vacuum Cleaner Co.	102.20
Farley & MacNeil	38.25
Danforth, A. L.	24.76
Fife, T. C.	1.50
Fisher, R. J.	1.65
Flood, E. K.	5.50
Foster-McDonald Co.	1,071.62
Francis Bros.	10.25
Garland, The, Co.	92.50
Globe Stove & Range Co. ....	.86
Ham, E. W., Elec. Co.	820.92
Hardy, F. S., & Co.	597.11
Heath, Carroll R.	25.00
High, Fred S. ....	.95
Hobart, Earl G.	9.00
Hobbs & Warren Co.	17.93
India Alkali Works	13.87
Jenkins Bros.	17.34
Lewis Elec. Supply Co.	84.03
Library Bureau	27.23
Lumsden & Van Stone Co., The	442.59
Lynn Gas & Elec. Co.	193.32
Maxwell, J. M.	7.59
McArdle, H. B.	2.00
McKenney & Waterbury Co.	11.00
New England Coal & Coke Co.	1,722.92
Perkins-Carpenter Elec. Supply Co.	97.55
Pettingell-Andrews Co.	888.55
Perry, John	2.20
Reading Garage & Service Station	38.00
Reading Tire Shop	1.00
Reading Motor Co.	15.60
Refaction Inc. Lamp Co.	41.25
Reo, Simpson Co.	2.64
Ridlon, Frank, Co.	115.16
Robbins-Phalon Co.	521.14
Russell Coal Co.	3,842.11
Rensselaer Valve Co.	56.30
Seannell Boiler Works	104.70
Simplex Elec. Heating Co.	300.00
Spaulding-Moss Co. ....	.47
Standard Oil Co.	117.87
Standoow, Charles	8.50

Stembridge, S. R.	35.60
Sweetser, Percy	93.04
Temple, J. S., Co.	20.00
Toledo Cooker Co., The	28.00
Tredinnick, John	725.99
Twombly, W. E. & J. F.	81.15
Vacuum Oil Co.	19.21
Vye-Smith Co.	88.49
Waldo Bros. & Bond Co.	13.75
Wales Adding Machine Co.	13.25
Western Elec. Co.	22.46
Westinghouse Elec. & Mfg. Co.	57.98
Wetmore-Savage Co.	1,718.11
Woburn Machine Co.	10.89
Yawman & Erbe Mfg. Co.	21.00
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	\$ 17,896.41

REPORT OF AUDITOR FOR YEAR 1923

February 5, 1924.

To the Municipal Lighting Board,
Reading, Mass.
Gentlemen:

According to your order, I have examined the books of record of the Municipal Light Department for the calendar year of 1923, and submit herewith my report.

Appended hereto and made a part of the report will be found audited schedules as follows:

- "A"—Balance Sheet December 31, 1923.
- "B"—Condensed Statement of Operations for 12 months.
- "C"—Profit & Loss Account covering year 1923.
- "D"—Detail of Operating Income for year 1923.
- "E"—Detail of Operating Expense for year 1923.
- "F"—List of Bonds and Notes—original issues and amounts outstanding December 31, 1923.

Cash in Bank:

\$894.50 represented as Construction Fund was checked and found to agree with the Town Accountant's record.

Petty Cash

\$150.00 loaned by the Town Treasurer to be used as an "Office Fund" at the first of 1923 was found returned intact December 31, 1923. On January 1, 1924, Fund was again established. When counted on January 31, 1924, an overage of 92c was found. Proper entry was immediately made to cover this difference.

Consumers' Deposit Fund

The pass book of the Mechanic Savings Bank of Reading showed \$863.87 which is in agreement with the books of the Department. This fund now contains both **principal** and **accrued interest**. I suggest that interest earned by this fund be withdrawn regularly and credited to "Acct. 563, Interest Income." Interest paid to depositors should be charged to "Interest on Guarantee Deposits" and withdrawn from Operating Fund. In other words, this account should contain only principal amounts. This account is in balance with Liability Account of Consumers' Deposits.

Accounts Receivable (Light & Power)—\$11,975.72

The total of individual customer's account cards showed to be \$15.82 less than the above figure.

Accounts Receivable (Miscellaneous)—\$9,942.56

The total of individual customer's account cards showed to be \$125.63 more than the above figure.

Adjustment should be made of the two foregoing accounts after February 1st balances are rechecked. Balances should be computed and entered upon each customer's account card with the view of keeping the total in balance with the Ledger Assets monthly. This procedure should apply to Jobbing as well as Light and Power Accounts.

Plant Accounts

Plant Accounts as shown in Schedule "A", I believe, represent fairly the cost thereof. Depreciation at 4% of cost of plant less Land values was charged off and properly recorded.

Material and Supplies

Inventory was taken by clerks of your department and was found to be in agreement with book as of December 31, 1923.

Construction Ledger

The Construction Ledger showing the detail of Plant expenditures should be posted up-to-date and kept in balance with the general books. Such was not the case on December 31, 1923.

Prepaid Insurance

Unexpired premiums were checked and found to agree with the books.

Bonds

Bonds to the amount of \$11,000.00 were retired during 1923 leaving \$119,000.00 outstanding as of December 31, 1923. See Schedule "F" for complete detail of Bonds outstanding.

A new issue of \$10,000.00 was made December 1, 1923. Premium realized was \$65.00 and properly applied to expense of selling same. This issue was made to cover new construction.

Notes

Notes to the extent of \$4,800.00 were retired and none issued during 1923.

Accounts Payable

The Ledger Account showed \$40.00 more than detail of unpaid vouchers. This difference, without doubt, will be found by Mr. Sargent and corrected during January. This list was stated to represent the Department's indebtedness for merchandise received.

I suggest that monthly check be made by the Local Office on Accounts Payable which, if done, will eliminate checking for small differences at the close of the year.

Consumers' Deposits

The amount represented in this Liability Account is found to agree with the actual deposit as shown in the Asset Account "CONSUMERS' DEPOSIT FUND". Comment made in regard to eliminating interest will, of course, apply to this account as well. A detail record at the office showing the name, address, account number, and amount of deposit, together with date of deposit, was found to be correct, but total does not agree with this amount because of interest being allowed to remain in the fund. When interest is removed, the accounts will agree. Instructions were left with the bookkeeper as to future procedure.

Other Current Liabilities

This account represents \$700.00 borrowed from the Town Treasury. This loan is unsecured and is of temporary nature.

Interest on Bonds and Notes

\$1,510.37 represents the correct amount of accrued interest on outstanding bonds and notes as of December 31, 1923.

Surplus

The Department has had a successful year as is evidenced by the net gain in Surplus of \$9,069.32, which is accounted for after making adjustment of Accounts Receivable, Inventory, Prepaid and Accrued Accounts.

Income

Gross Electric Income as reported in Schedule "B" is \$166,436.12 or an increase over 1922 of \$10,930.98.

Expenses

Review of vouchers for the year show a proper classification as per the Department of Public Utilities regulations; total of which show to be \$127,892.69.

General

The books show a marked improvement over prior year and conform, I believe, with the regulations of the State. However, suggestions were left with the bookkeeper for minor improvements by way of additional records.

I wish to state that the assistance rendered by the employees of the Department is very much appreciated.

Respectfully submitted,

CHARLES E. STANWOOD,

Public Accountant.

F. J. Stanwood
Warren Scott
R. J. Sullivan
J. K. Tilotson

SCHEDULE "A"

**TOWN OF READING—MUNICIPAL LIGHT DEPARTMENT
BALANCE SHEET AS OF DECEMBER 31, 1923**

Assets		Liabilities	
INVESTMENTS:			
PLANT INVESTMENT:			
111 Land	\$ 2,575.80	301 Appropriations for Construc- tion	\$ 30,678.26
113 Structures	20,669.29	305 Bonds	\$119,000.00
		307 Notes Payable	22,100.00
Generating Plant—Steam:			
114 Boiler Plant Equipment..	39,484.36	Total Bonds and Notes	\$141,100.00
115 Prime Movers and Auxil- iaries	19,016.50	CURRENT LIABILITIES:	
116 Turbo Generator Units	29,654.80	308 Accounts Payable	\$ 17,936.41
117 Electric Plant—Steam ..	20,181.46	309 Consumers' Deposits	963.07
		312 Other Current Liabilities	700.00
Transmission, Distribution & Storage:			
125 Poles, Fixtures and Over- head Conductors	141,906.57	Total Current Liabilities	\$ 19,599.48
128 Consumers' Meters	31,581.91	ACCRUED LIABILITIES:	
129 Consumers' Meter Instal- lation	4,065.02	314 Interest on Bonds and Notes	\$ 1,510.37
130 Line Transformers	29,729.86		
131 Transformer Installation	3,459.34	Total Accrued Liabilities	\$ 1,510.37
Utilization Equipment:		APPROPRIATED SURPLUS:	
132 Street Lighting Equipment	11,465.48	322 Loans Repayment	\$204,800.00
		Total Appropriated Surplus	\$204,800.00
		Total Liabilities	\$397,688.11
Total Plant Investment	\$353,790.39	PROFIT AND LOSS:	
General Equipment:		400 Profit and Loss— Balance ..	\$ 20,510.45
150 Office Equipment	\$ 2,387.00		
153 Transportation Equipment	2,750.00		
Total Investments	\$358,927.39		

CURRENT ASSETS:

204 Construction Fund	\$	999.50
205 Consumers' Deposit Fund		963.87
207-1 Accts. Rec. L't & Power ..	\$11,975.72	
207-2 Accts. Rec. Misc.	9,942.56	21,918.28

Materials and Supplies:

209-1 Material and Suppl.—Gen'l	\$10,474.16	
209-2 Station Tools & Appliances .	427.70	
209-3 Dist. Tools & Appliances .	1,619.65	
209-4 Printing & Of- fice Supplies	643.21	
209-6 Coal Supply— Electric ..	7,809.24	
209-9 Station Supplies	1,521.36	
209-10 Lamps, and Ap- pliances ..	9,421.79	31,917.11

Total Current Assets \$ 55,798.76

PREPAID ACCOUNTS:

213 Insurance General	\$	3,472.41
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Total Prepaid Accounts \$ 3,472.41

Total Assets

\$418,198.56

Total Liabilities and Surplus ..

\$418,198.56

SCHEDULE "B"

TOWN OF READING—MUNICIPAL LIGHT DEPARTMENT
CONDENSED STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS—12 MONTHS ENDED
DECEMBER 31, 1923

REVENUE FROM SALE OF ELECTRIC ENERGY:

501-1	Commercial Incandescent Light Meter	\$ 91,021.85	
501-2	Power for Motors	29,945.76	
501-3	Heating and Cooking	12,435.91	
504	Power for Other Electric Companies	195.32	
505-1	Public Incandescent Lighting	27,788.67	
505-2	Municipal Lighting	2,075.47	
505-3	Municipal Power	2,508.83	
Total Revenue from Sale of Electric Energy			\$165,971.81

REVENUE FROM MISC. ELECTRIC OPERATIONS:

508	Revenue from Misc. Electric Operations	464.31	
Total Revenue from Misc. Elec. Operations			\$ 464.31
500..... Total Electric Operating Revenue....			\$166,436.12

ELECTRIC OPERATING EXPENSES:

	Production	\$ 62,732.83	
	Transmission and Distribution	16,287.60	
	Utilization	3,959.94	
	Commercial	8,161.57	
	New Business	2,132.56	
	General and Miscellaneous	34,618.19	
600	Total Electric Operating Expense		\$127,892.69
	Net Operating Revenue		\$ 38,543.43
	Ratio Operating Expense to Operating Revenue		76.84%
550	Uncollectible Operating Revenue	\$ 722.91	
551	Taxes Assignable to Electric Operations	514.50	
	Net Operating Income		\$ 37,306.02

NON OPERATING INCOME:

560 Merchandising and Jobbing Revenue	\$ 6,810.93
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Gross Income	\$ 30,495.09
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DEDUCTIONS FROM GROSS INCOME:

576 Interest on Bonds & Notes Payable....	\$ 6,437.28
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NET INCOME	\$ 24,057.81
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SCHEDULE "C"**TOWN OF READING—MUNICIPAL LIGHT DEPARTMENT****PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT—12 MONTHS ENDED DEC. 31, 1923**

401 Balance, January 1, 1923	\$ 11,441.13
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CREDITS:

Net Income	24,057.81
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Collection of Bad Debts Prior 1-1-23	811.51
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This item shown in "Income Acct." on
Report to Dept. of Public Utilities

Total Credits	\$ 36,310.45
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DEBITS:

Bonds Paid	\$ 11,000.00
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Notes Paid	4,800.00
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Total Debits	\$ 15,800.00
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400 Balance, December 31, 1923	\$ 20,510.45
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NET INCREASE IN SURPLUS FOR YEAR 1923	\$ 9,069.32
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SCHEDULE "D"**TOWN OF READING—MUNICIPAL LIGHT DEPARTMENT****DETAIL OF OPERATING INCOME—YEAR 1923****Commercial Incandescent Lighting Meter:**

Reading	\$ 60,713.95
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Lynnfield Centre	5,545.68
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North Reading	7,735.81
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Wilmington	17,026.41
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	\$ 91,021.85
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Power for Motors:

Reading	\$ 24,706.89	
Lynnfield Centre	551.06	
North Reading	3,386.56	
Wilmington	1,301.25	
	<hr/>	\$ 29,945.76

Heating and Cooking:

Reading	\$ 8,038.65	
Lynnfield Centre	843.26	
North Reading	1,648.21	
Wilmington	1,845.79	
	<hr/>	\$ 12,435.91

Public Incandescent Lighting:

Reading	\$ 14,800.00	
Lynnfield Centre	1,741.55	
North Reading	3,714.12	
Wilmington	7,533.00	
	<hr/>	\$ 27,788.67

Power for Other Electric Companies:

Wakefield	\$ 60.86	
Lowell	134.46	
	<hr/>	\$ 195.32

Municipal Lighting	\$ 2,075.47
Municipal Power	\$ 2,508.83

Total Revenue from Sale of Electric Energy	<hr/>	\$165,971.81
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SCHEDULE "E"**TOWN OF READING—MUNICIPAL LIGHT DEPARTMENT****DETAIL OF OPERATING EXPENSES—YEAR 1923****PRODUCTION EXPENSES:**

601-605 Labor		\$ 17,424.86
606 Boiler Fuel	40,920.54	
607 Water for Steam	216.16	
608 Lubricants	126.78	
609 Station Supplies and Expense	730.41	
611 Maint. of Station Structures	695.04	
612 Maint. of Boiler Plant Equip.	1,359.07	
614 Maint. of Turbo Generator Units	811.17	
615 Maint. of Electric Generating Equip. ..	174.18	
616 Maint. of Electric Accessory Equip. ..	157.29	
617 Maint. of Misc. Power Plant Equip. ..	4.07	
634 Electric Energy Purchased	113.26	
	<hr/>	\$ 62,732.83

TRANSMISSION & DISTRIBUTION EXPENSES:

638	Operation of Trans. & Dist. Lines	\$	3,689.28	
639	Trans. & Dist. Supplies & Expense ..		872.82	
640	Inspecting & Testing Meters		1,015.62	
641	Removing & Resetting Meters		519.69	
642	Removing & Resetting Transformers..		652.66	
647	Maint. of Trans. & Dist. Lines		8,709.24	
647	Maint. of Trans. & Dist. Lines (Storm)		188.31	
650	Maint. of Consumers' Meters		352.20	
651	Maint. of Transformers		287.78	
			<hr/>	\$ 16,287.60

UTILIZATION EXPENSES:

654	Municipal Street Lamps—Labor	\$	837.81	
655	Municipal Street Lamps—Sup. & Exp.		1,336.86	
657	Maint. of Municipal Street Lamps ...		228.23	
658	Maint. of Com'l Lighting Equipment		2.06	
659	Maint. of Consumers' Installations		1,554.98	
			<hr/>	\$ 3,959.94

COMMERCIAL EXPENSES:

660	Commercial Salaries	\$	6,176.52	
661	Commercial Supplies & Expense		1,985.05	
			<hr/>	\$ 8,161.57

NEW BUSINESS EXPENSES:

662	New Business Salaries	\$	1,517.87	
663	New Business Supplies & Expense ...		33.72	
664	Advertising		556.70	
665	Wiring and Appliances		24.27	
			<hr/>	\$ 2,132.56

GENERAL & MISCELLANEOUS EXPENSES:

666	Salaries Mun. Light Board & Manager	\$	3,524.92	
667	Salaries General Office Clerks		2,397.78	
668	Gen'l Office Supplies & Expense		1,099.71	
670	Law Expense—General		29.00	
671	Insurance		5,287.46	
673	Accidents & Damages .....		.40	
674	Store Expense		246.35	
675	Transportation Expenses		1,664.46	
676	Inventory Adjustments		988.12	
678	Depreciation		19,011.08	
679	Misc. General Expenses		368.91	
			<hr/>	\$ 34,618.19

Total Electric Operating Expenses	\$127,892.69
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SCHEDULE "F"

TOWN OF READING—MUNICIPAL LIGHT DEPARTMENT

ORIGINAL ISSUE OF BONDS AND NOTES AND AMOUNTS OUTSTANDING DEC. 31, 1923

BONDS

No of Issue	Date Issued	Original Amount	Payments on Principal	Rate of Interest	Date of Interest Payment	Purpose	Amt. Outstanding Dec. 31, 1923
1st	10- 1-94	\$ 50,000.00	\$1,000 yearly 10 yrs. 2,000 yearly 20 yrs.	4	April-October	Establishing Plant	\$ 2,000.00
2d	10- 1-07	26,000.00	1,000 yearly 26 yrs.	4½	April-October	Additions	10,000.00
3d	7- 5-11	20,000.00	2,000 yearly 10 yrs.	4	January-July	Wilmington Lines	None
4th	10-15-13	23,500.00	1,500 yearly 9 yrs. 1,000 yearly 10 yrs.	4¾	April-October	Station	9,000.00
5th	9-15-14	8,000.00	500. yearly 16 yrs.	4½	March-September	Reading	3,500.00
6th	5-15-16	10,000.00	500 yearly 20 yrs.	4	May-November	New Construction	6,500.00
7th	10- 1-17	55,000.00	1,000 yearly 1 yr. 3,000 yearly 18 yrs.	4½	April-October	Additions	37,000.00
8th	1- 1-19	12,000.00	1,000 yearly 4 yrs. 500 yearly 16 yrs.	4½	January-July	Additions	8,000.00
9th	4- 1-19	20,000.00	1,000 yearly 20 yrs.	4¾	April-October	Additions	16,000.00
10th	5- 1-20	20,000.00	1,000 yearly 20 yrs.	5	May-November	Additions	17,000.00
11th	12- 1-23	10,000.00	1,000 yearly 10 yrs.	4½	June-December	Additions	10,000.00
		<u>\$254,500.00</u>					<u>\$119,000.00</u>

NOTES

1st	5- 1-96	\$ 7,000.00	\$1,400 yearly	5 yrs.	4	May-November	Construct. of Plant	None
2nd	5- 1-96	7,000.00	1,400 yearly	5 yrs.	4	May-November	Construct. of Plant	None
3rd	12- -96	1,500.00	1,500 Dec.	9, 1897	4		Construct. of Plant	None
4th	7-15-98	3,000.00	1,000 July	15, 1901	3	July-January	New Generator	None
			2,000 July	15, 1904				
5th	12- 7-03	1,400.00	1,400 Dec.	7, 1906	4	June-December	To take up note	
6th	11-15-09	2,500.00	1,000 Nov.	15, 1910		May-November	due May 1, 1903	None
			1,500 Nov.	15, 1911	4		Lynnfield Ctr. Lines	None
7th	1-21-10	1,800.00	1,800 Jan.	21, 1913	4	June-December	Construction	None
8th	7-12-11	2,200.00	2,200 July	12, 1912	4	December-July	Construction	None
9th	3-27-10	12,000.00	1,000 yearly	12 yrs.	4	March-September	No. Reading Lines	\$ 2,000.00
10th	4-16-13	13,500.00	1,500 yearly	9 yrs.	4 1/4	April-October	New Construction	None
11th	5-15-15	12,000.00	800 yearly	15 yrs.	4	May-November	New Construction	5,600.00
12th	7-15-15	4,000.00	500 yearly	8 yrs.	4	January-July	Reading	None
13th	9-22-17	6,500.00	500 yearly	13 yrs.	5	March-September	New Construction	3,500.00
14th	11-20-19	3,000.00	1,500 yearly	2 yrs.	4 1/2	May-November	New Construction	None
15th	7- 1-22	7,000.00	1,000 yearly	7 yrs.	6	January-July	Additions	5,000.00
16th	12-15-22	7,000.00	1,000 yearly	7 yrs.	4 1/2	June-December	Additions	6,000.00
								<hr/>
								\$ 22,100.00

\$ 91,400.00

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W. L. Lusk